

English Ladder

Student Workbook

Understanding How to Express "Going Places" in English

A polished self-study handout designed for print or tablet use. Read the concept, notice the pattern, and then complete the matching practice set on your own.



Grammar Concepts #02

Key Points

Summary

Visual anchor

Use the concept poster to spotlight the main language pattern in **Understanding How to Express "Going Places" in English** and keep the explanation visible during practice and discussion.

ENGLISH LADDER

Concept #02 ► Going Places

There are three styles used to indicate you are going somewhere.

I want to go... go

General Areas ...home/there/upstairs/downstairs/inside/overseas/abroad/downtown/away

Fewer than 20 common words.

I want to go to... go + to

Named Areas... ...London/Spain/Heaven school/work/church/bed/breakfast/lunch/dinner

Fewer than 20 "activity" words, plus all named areas.

...or places that have a strongly associated activity such as bed in which you sleep or school in which you learn.

I want to go to the/a... go + to + the/a

Specific Areas ...store/bank/meeting/concert/park/store/station/hospital/mountains/zoo

The most common style.

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Core Idea

In English, there are three main ways to express the idea of going somewhere. Each style is used depending on the type of place you are referring to. Let's break down these styles and explore examples to help you understand how to use them correctly.

Quick reference

General Areas	I want to go home.
Named Areas	I want to go to London.
Specific Areas	I want to go to the store.

Key Points

General Areas

When talking about general areas, we simply use the verb go. These are common words and phrases that don't require any additional prepositions. Here are some examples:

- I want to go home.
- She needs to go there.
- They plan to go upstairs.
- We should go inside.
- He dreams of going overseas.
- She is excited to go abroad.

These expressions are straightforward and are used to describe movement to a general place without specifying it further. Typically, these are common destinations where the action of going is well understood by context.

Named Areas

When referring to specific places or named areas, we use go + to. This includes places like cities, countries, specific buildings, or places with a well-known function. Here are some examples:

- I want to go to London.
- They are planning to go to Spain.
- She wants to go to Heaven.



- He needs to go to school.
- We should go to work.
- They plan to go to church.
- She has to go to bed.
- We are going to breakfast.

In these cases, "to" is necessary because it connects the verb "go" with a specific destination. Places like "bed" or "school" have strong associations with specific activities (sleeping and learning, respectively), so we also use "to" with them.

Specific Areas

For very specific places, especially those that are more common in everyday speech, we use go + to + the/a. This includes places such as stores, banks, parks, etc. Here are some examples:

- I want to go to the store.
- She needs to go to the bank.
- They are going to the meeting.
- We plan to go to a concert.
- He wants to go to the park.
- She will go to the hospital.
- We need to go to the mountains.
- They are excited to go to the zoo.

In these sentences, "the" or "a" is used to specify which particular place is being referred to. "The" is used when talking about a specific place known to both the speaker and listener, while "a" is used when the specific identity of the place is not important or known.

Summary

Understanding these three styles helps in constructing grammatically correct sentences when talking about going places:

- General Areas: Use go.
- Examples: home, there, inside, upstairs.
- Named Areas: Use go + to.
- Examples: cities (London), functions (school, work), activities (bed, church).
- Specific Areas: Use go + to + the/a.
- Examples: common places (store, bank, park, zoo).



By mastering these structures, you can effectively communicate about various destinations and activities related to going places in English.



Practice Check

Answer the quiz questions below with the response in parentheses that is consistent with the grammar concepts taught on the left.

ITEM 01

I want to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) there tomorrow.

Answer: _____

ITEM 02

They need to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) hospital.

Answer: _____

ITEM 03

She plans to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) school every day.

Answer: _____

ITEM 04

We are going to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) home after the movie.

Answer: _____

ITEM 05

He wants to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) concert tonight.

Answer: _____

ITEM 06

They will (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) abroad next year.

Answer: _____

ITEM 07

She dreams of (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) Paris someday.

Answer: _____

ITEM 08

We need to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) mountains for a hike.

Answer: _____



ITEM 09

I want to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) inside because it's too cold outside.

Answer: _____

ITEM 10

They should (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) store to buy groceries.

Answer: _____

ITEM 11

We are planning to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) church this Sunday.

Answer: _____

ITEM 12

He needs to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) bed early tonight.

Answer: _____

ITEM 13

She is excited to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) zoo this weekend.

Answer: _____

ITEM 14

We need to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) work early tomorrow.

Answer: _____

ITEM 15

I want to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) beach during summer.

Answer: _____

ITEM 16

He is planning to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) mountains.

Answer: _____

ITEM 17

We are going to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) downtown to see the parade.

Answer: _____

ITEM 18

She wants to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) Spain next summer.

Answer: _____



ITEM 19

I need to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) park to relax.

Answer: _____

ITEM 20

They are going to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) meeting later.

Answer: _____

ITEM 21

We want to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) upstairs to see the view.

Answer: _____

ITEM 22

He plans to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) bank this afternoon.

Answer: _____

ITEM 23

She is going to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) breakfast at the new cafe.

Answer: _____

ITEM 24

We need to (go) (go to) (go to the/a/an) hospital to visit a friend.

Answer: _____



Self-check Answer Key

Use the key after you have completed every item on your own.

ITEM 01

I want to go there tomorrow.

ITEM 02

They need to go to the hospital.

ITEM 03

She plans to go to school every day.

ITEM 04

We are going to go home after the movie.

ITEM 05

He wants to go to the concert tonight.

ITEM 06

They will go abroad next year.

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She dreams of go to Paris someday.

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We need to go to the mountains for a hike.

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I want to go to the beach during summer.

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He is planning to go to the mountains.

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We are going to go downtown to see the parade.

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She wants to go to Spain next summer.

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I need to go to the park to relax.

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They are going to go to the meeting later.

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He plans to go to the bank this afternoon.

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She is going to go to breakfast at the new cafe.

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We need to go to the hospital to visit a friend.