

Language summary

Grammar

So and such

So + adjective

It was **so** convenient.
It was **so** successful.

Such + a / an + adjective + singular count noun

It was **such a** convenient location.
It was **such a** successful event.

Such + adjective + noncount / plural count noun

That was **such** useful information.
They were **such** successful events.

- Use *so* and *such* with an adjective to make the adjective stronger.
- Use a *that* clause with *so* or *such* to show a result.
His invention was so successful that he became very rich.
It was such a great novel that I couldn't put it down.
They were such creative people that everybody wanted to see their work.

The passive

| Tenses | Affirmative statements | Negative statements |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Simple present | Post-it Notes are used in offices everywhere. | They aren't used as much at home. |
| Simple past | They were invented in the 1970s. | They weren't invented in the 1980s. |
| Present perfect | Since then, they have been sold in many different colors. | They haven't been sold only in yellow. |

| Yes / no questions | Short answers Affirmative | Short answers Negative |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Is it used in offices? | Yes, it is . | No, it isn't . |
| Was it invented in the U.S.? | Yes, it was . | No, it wasn't . |
| Has it been sold in blue? | Yes, it has . | No, it hasn't . |

Wh- questions

Where **is** it **used**?
When **was** it **invented**?
Where **has** it **been sold**?

- The passive voice places the focus of a sentence on the receiver of an action instead of the doer of an action. Use the passive voice when the doer of an action is not known or is not important.
Tea bags were invented in 1908. (The focus is on the tea bags, not on who invented them.)
- When the doer of the action is important, use the passive voice with *by*.
Tea bags were invented by Thomas Sullivan.

Vocabulary

| Positive and negative descriptions | Verb and noun formation |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| convenient | create creation |
| conventional | design design |
| creative | develop development |
| effective | improve improvement |
| eventful | innovate innovation |
| imaginative | introduce introduction |
| significant | invent invention |
| successful | prove proof |
| | succeed success |

Functions

Eliciting an opinion

Do you have any ideas?
Got any ideas?
Got any suggestions?

Suggesting a solution

Well, one idea could be to . . .
Something we could try is to . . .
One solution might be to . . .