

7 grammar rules for stronger B1 Norwegian

A visual guide with 21 practice questions
and explained answers.

THE PATTERN

I dag jobber Leila.

Today Leila works.

I dag is one opening element.
Jobber is in position 2.



Make the structure visible.

Read the rule, follow the example, then write your own answer. The workbook and answer key are at the end.

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V2 word order

Change the opening. Keep the verb second.

In a statement, the finite verb occupies position 2. Count sentence elements, not individual words. The finite verb shows tense: jobber, jobbet, kan or har.

1 / OPENING

2 / VERB

REST

Leila

jobber

hjemme i dag.

Leila works from home today.

I dag

jobber

Leila hjemme.

Today Leila works from home.

Når Leila kommer
hjem,

lager

hun middag.

When Leila gets home, she makes dinner.

The whole når-clause counts as one opening element. The main-clause verb lager comes immediately after it.

AVOID

I dag Leila jobber hjemme.

USE

I dag jobber Leila hjemme.

Practise this rule: questions 01-03 on p. 10.

The position of ikke

Ikke moves when the clause becomes dependent.

A helsetning can stand alone. A leddsetning is a dependent clause inside a larger sentence. Ikke follows the finite verb in a main clause and precedes it in a dependent clause.

SUBJECT

FINITE VERB

NEGATION

REST

Leila

drikker

ikke

kaffe.

Leila does not drink coffee.

Emil vet at ...

SUBJECT

NEGATION

FINITE VERB

REST

Leila

ikke

drikker

kaffe.

Emil knows that Leila does not drink coffee.

WITH TWO VERBS

Leila har ikke drukket kaffe.

Emil vet at Leila ikke har drukket kaffe.

The rule follows the finite verb har, even when another verb comes later.

AVOID

Emil vet at Leila drikker ikke kaffe.

USE

Emil vet at Leila ikke drikker kaffe.

Practise this rule: questions 04-06 on p. 10.

Past and present perfect

One event ended. One situation reaches now.

Use the simple past for an event at a finished past time. Use har + past participle for a situation continuing now, or for an experience or result relevant now.

FINISHED PAST TIME

Jeg spiste pizza i går.

I ate pizza yesterday.



PAST TO NOW

Jeg har bodd her i ni år.

I have lived here for nine years.



An experience also connects to now: Jeg har sett filmen.
I have seen the film. No finished time is named.

INFINITIVE

PAST

PRESENT PERFECT

spise

spiste

har spist

bo

bodde

har bodd

gå

gikk

har gått

Practise this rule: questions 07-09 on pp. 10-11.

Modal verbs + infinitive

The first verb carries tense. The next keeps its base form.

After kan, må, skal, vil and bør, use the infinitive without å. The modal changes when you change tense; the next verb stays in the infinitive.

SUBJECT

MODAL

INFINITIVE / NO Å

Leila

kan

svømme.

Leila can swim.

Leila

kunne

svømme.

Leila could swim.

THREE MORE EXAMPLES

må jobbe

must work

skal reise

is going to travel

bør hvile

should rest

Compare: Hun liker å svømme. Hun kan svømme.

The infinitive marker å depends on the verb before it.

AVOID

Leila kan å svømme.

USE

Leila kan svømme.

Practise this rule: questions 10-12 on p. 11.

Adjective agreement

The noun controls the adjective ending.

Many adjectives use the base form with en/ei nouns, -t with et nouns, and -e in the plural. Before a definite noun, the adjective normally takes its definite form in -e.

ONE ADJECTIVE / THREE FORMS

EN / EI

ET

PLURAL

en stor bil**et stort hus****store hus**

a big car

a big house

big houses

This also works after er: Bilen er stor. Huset er stort. Husene er store. The adjective still matches the noun.

ADD AN ADJECTIVE TO A DEFINITE NOUN

A / INDEFINITE

THE / DEFINITE

en stor bil**den store bilen****et stort hus****det store huset****store hus****de store husene**

The definite pattern has three parts:
den/det/de + adjective in -e + definite noun.

AVOID

et stor hus

USE

et stort hus

Practise this rule: questions 13-15 on pp. 11-12.

Reflexive possessives

Same action. A different owner.

Use sin/si/sitt/sine when the owner is the third-person subject in the same clause: he, she, it or they. Hennes points to another woman here. The owned noun decides the reflexive form.

Leila vasker bilen sin.

Leila washes her own car.

OWNER **Leila** $\longrightarrow$ **bilen sin**

Leila vasker bilen hennes.

Leila washes another woman's car.

OWNER **Another woman** $\longrightarrow$ **bilen hennes**

THE OWNED NOUN DECIDES THE FORM

EN

EI

ET

PLURAL

bilen sin**boka si****huset sitt****barna sine**

Sin points back to Leila in this clause. Hennes needs context to identify the other woman. The owner's gender does not choose sin, si, sitt or sine.

WITH JEG

Jeg vasker bilen min.

Practise this rule: questions 16-18 on p. 12.

Relative clauses with som

Add detail without repeating the noun.

Som introduces a relative clause: a clause that tells us more about a noun. In this pattern, som replaces the repeated subject. Use it for people and things.

TWO SHORT SENTENCES

**Leila har en venn.
Vennen bor i Bergen.**



ONE SENTENCE / A RELATIVE CLAUSE

Leila har en venn som bor i Bergen.

Leila has a friend who lives in Bergen.

Som bor i Bergen describes en venn. Som is already the subject of bor; another han would repeat that subject.

THE SAME PATTERN WITH A THING

Leila leser en bok som handler om Norge.

Leila is reading a book about Norway.

AVOID

en venn som han bor i Bergen

USE

en venn som bor i Bergen

Practise this rule: questions 19-21 on p. 12.

Use the rule.

Write before checking the answers. Then say each complete sentence aloud.

01

Put I dag first: Leila jobber hjemme i dag.

RULE 1

02

Put På kjøkkenet first: Leila lager mat på kjøkkenet.

RULE 1

03

Begin with the when-clause: Leila lager mat når hun kommer hjem.

RULE 1

04

Add ikke: Leila drikker kaffe.

RULE 2

05

Add ikke inside the at-clause: Emil vet at Leila drikker kaffe.

RULE 2

06

Add ikke inside the at-clause: Emil vet at Leila har drukket kaffe.

RULE 2

07

Choose: Leila ____ pizza i går. (spiste / har spist)

RULE 3

Answers to this page: p. 13.

Use the rule.

Write before checking the answers. Then say each complete sentence aloud.

08

Complete with *bo*: Jeg ____ her i ni år. I still live here.

RULE 3

09

Write *gå* in the present perfect: Leila ____ hjem.

RULE 3

10

Correct: Leila kan å svømme.

RULE 4

11

Choose: Hun må _____. (jobber / jobbe)

RULE 4

12

Put *kan* in the past: Leila kan svømme.

RULE 4

13

Complete with *stor*: Leila har et ____ hus.

RULE 5

14

Complete with *stor*: Leila liker ____ hus. The houses are big.

RULE 5

Answers to this page: p. 14.

Use the rule.

Write before checking the answers. Then say each complete sentence aloud.

15 Change a to the: et stort hus.

RULE 5

16 Leila washes her own car. Choose: Leila vasker bilen _____. (sin / hennes)

RULE 6

17 Leila washes another woman's car. Choose: Leila vasker bilen _____. (sin / hennes)

RULE 6

18 Leila paints her own house. Complete: Leila maler huset _____.

RULE 6

19 Join with som: Leila har en venn. Vennen bor i Oslo.

RULE 7

20 Remove the repeated subject: Leila har en venn som han bor i Oslo.

RULE 7

21 Join with som: Leila leser en bok. Boka handler om Norge.

RULE 7

Answers to this page: p. 15.

The answer and the reason.

01 I dag jobber Leila hjemme.

I dag is one opening element. Jobber stays second.

02 På kjøkkenet lager Leila mat.

The whole place phrase is position 1; lager is position 2.

03 Når hun kommer hjem, lager Leila mat.

The dependent clause fills the first position of the main clause.

04 Leila drikker ikke kaffe.

In a main clause, ikke follows the finite verb.

05 Emil vet at Leila ikke drikker kaffe.

Inside the at-clause, ikke precedes drikker.

06 Emil vet at Leila ikke har drukket kaffe.

Ikke comes before har, the finite verb in the dependent clause.

07 spiste

I går names a finished past time, so use the simple past.

The answer and the reason.

08 **Jeg har bodd her i ni år.**

The situation began earlier and continues now: har + bodd.

09 **Leila har gått hjem.**

Har combines with the past participle gått, not the past form gikk.

10 **Leila kan svømme.**

Kan takes an infinitive without å.

11 **jobbe**

Må carries tense. The action verb stays in the infinitive.

12 **Leila kunne svømme.**

Kan changes to kunne; svømme remains unchanged.

13 **stort**

An et noun takes the neuter form: stort.

14 **store**

Plural hus takes the plural adjective store.

The answer and the reason.

15 **det store huset**

Use det, the definite adjective store, and the definite noun huset.

16 **sin**

Leila is the subject and owns the car.

17 **hennes**

The owner is another woman, not the subject Leila.

18 **sitt**

Hus is an et noun. The owned noun determines sitt.

19 **Leila har en venn som bor i Oslo.**

Som replaces the repeated subject vennen.

20 **Leila har en venn som bor i Oslo.**

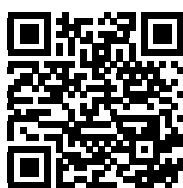
Som already serves as the subject of bor.

21 **Leila leser en bok som handler om Norge.**

The relative clause describes a thing: en bok.

Recall the forms.

These MuntligB1 flashcards practise the verb and noun forms behind the rules. Tap a link or scan its QR code.



Verb tenses

Practise present, past and present perfect forms.

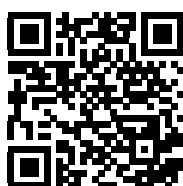
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Noun gender

Recall en, ei and et before choosing adjective endings.

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Plurals

Practise the plural nouns used with plural adjectives.

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