

# Grammatical Development in English

Expressive Language Chart			
Grammatical Structure		Developmental Norm	Therapy Indicated If Not Acquired By:
Nouns	plurals (eg. two cookies or two watches)	2 - 2 ½ years	3 ½ years
	possessives (eg. girl's washroom)	2 - 2 ½ years	3 ½ years
Verbs	present progressive (ing) (eg. She is washing)	2 ½ - 3 years	3 ½ years
	present singular (-s) (eg. She washes the dishes OR She eats a lot)	2 ½ - 3 years	4 years
	aux/copula (is/are) - uncontracted (eg. She <i>is</i> washing OR They <i>are</i> hungry)	2 ½ - 3 years	3 ½ years
	aux/copula - contracted (proper use of apostrophes) (eg. <b>He's</b> tired or <b>She's</b> eating cookies)	2 ½ - 3 years	4 years
	regular past tense (eg. She washed the dishes)	2 ½ - 3 years	4 ½ years
	irregular past tense (eg. She <i>wrote</i> a letter)	3 ½ - 4 years	5 years
	future tense (eg. She <i>is going to</i> write a letter OR She <i>will</i> write a letter)	3 - 3 ½ years	5 years
Pronouns	first person (I, me, you) (eg. I want <i>you</i> )	2 - 2 ½ years	3 years
	gender (he, she, they) (eg. <i>She</i> is happy)	2 ½ - 3 years	4 years
	possessive (his, hers, theirs) (eg. That's <i>his</i> dog)	3 ½ - 4 years	4 ½ years
	object (him, her, them) (eg. Go and see <i>him</i> )	3 - 4 years	4 ½ years
Negatives	integrated into the sentence (eg. It's <i>not</i> here OR <i>Don't</i> break it.)	2 ½ - 3 years	3 ½ years
Questions	N-V inversion (eg. <i>Are you</i> coming?)	3 ½ - 4 years	4 ½ years
	Wh? (eg. <i>When</i> are you going?)	3 ½ - 4 years	4 ½ years
Prepositions	in, on, under (eg. The dog put his bones <i>under</i> the table and <i>in</i> my shoe.)	2 ½ - 3 years	3 ½ years
	behind, in front, beside, between (eg. It's <i>beside</i> you OR <i>between</i> the two chairs)	3 ½ - 4 years	4 ½ years