

How to exaggerate



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# Exaggeration

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# Exaggeration

is a way to make what we say sound more **dramatic**, **funny**, or **interesting**





## Why do we exaggerate?

- To emphasize a point
  - To make stories more entertaining
  - To express strong feelings
  - To create comparisons or vivid images
  - Exaggeration is especially common in informal situations, like chatting with friends, telling stories, or joking around, because it adds color and personality to our language.
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# 1. Exaggerated Actions or States

- My (body part) is killing me  
*e.g. My feet are killing me after that long hike.*
- I'm starving / I'm dying of thirst  
*e.g. I'm starving – I could eat a horse.*
- I'd die of (embarrassment/shame)  
*e.g. I'd die of embarrassment if I tripped in front of everyone.*
- I wouldn't be seen dead in (something)  
*e.g. I wouldn't be seen dead in those neon sneakers.*

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# 2. Exaggerated Size or Quantity

- It takes (forever/hours) to (do something).  
*e.g. This bus takes forever to arrive!*
- (I bet) it costs a fortune.  
*e.g. I bet this designer dress costs a fortune!*
- It's about (sizes) too (small/big).  
*e.g. These jeans are about ten sizes too small.*
- I've told you (a million times), ...  
*e.g. I've told you a million times, don't leave your shoes in the hallway!*
- It looks like it's been around for (centuries/ages).  
*e.g. Wow, this book looks like it's been around for centuries!*

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# 3. Exaggerated Comparisons or Likenesses

- There's nothing better than (something).  
*e.g. There's nothing better than a sunny day at the beach.*
- It's like trying to (impossible task like *find a needle in a haystack, teach a cat to swim, catch a cloud with your hands*)  
*e.g. It's like trying to find a needle in a haystack.*
- You'll be (emotion) with (something).  
*e.g. You'll be crying with laughter when you watch that video.*  
*e.g. You'll (literally) be green with envy. When you see his new car.*
- (Something) is the (best/worst) thing on (planet/world).  
*e.g. That vacation spot is the most amazing place on earth.*

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# Summing Up

- **What it is:**

Exaggeration is when we make an action, feeling, quantity, or comparison sound bigger, stronger, or more dramatic than it really is.

- **Why we use it:**

To emphasize a point – make something more important or noticeable.

To entertain – add humor or excitement to stories.

To express strong feelings – show emotions clearly.

To create vivid images or comparisons – help people imagine exactly what we mean.

- **Where it's common:** Mostly in informal situations – chatting with friends, telling stories, or joking around.

**Exaggeration makes your English fun, expressive, and memorable – just don't take it literally!**

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