

Lesson 32

Separative Pronouns

Quick Summary: What is the difference between another and other?

A simple rule to help you remember the difference between another and other is:

- ❖ another + singular noun
- ❖ other + plural noun
- ❖ others (a pronoun to replace other + plural noun)

Examples

I need another cup. (cup is singular so we use another)

I need other cups. (cups is plural so we use other)

I need others. (refers to other cups)

When to use ANOTHER

Another means:

- ❖ one more, an additional, an extra
- ❖ a different one; an alternative one

Another is a determiner that goes before a singular countable noun or a pronoun.

Another + Singular Countable noun

Another can be followed by a singular countable noun:

- ❖ He has bought another motorbike.
- ❖ Would you like another cup of coffee?
- ❖ Don't worry about the rain. We can go another day.
- ❖ I think you should paint it another color.

Another + One

Another can be placed before "one" when the meaning is clear from the text before it:

- ❖ I have already eaten two sandwiches though now I want another one.
(= an additional sandwich)

Another as a pronoun

Sometimes another is used as a pronoun:

- ❖ That piece of cake was tasty. I think I'll have another. (another = one more piece of cake)
- ❖ I don't like this room. Let's ask for another. (another = another room)

Note: you can also say: "I think I'll have another one." and "Let's ask for another one."

Another + number + plural noun

Another can be used before a plural noun when there is a number before that noun or before phrases such as a couple of, a few etc.

- ❖ In another 20 years my laptop is going to be obsolete.
- ❖ I like this city so much that I'm going to spend another three days here.
- ❖ We need another three teachers before classes begin.
- ❖ He was given another couple of months to finish the sculpture.

When to use OTHER

Other is a determiner that goes before plural countable nouns, uncountable nouns or a pronoun.

Other + Plural Countable Noun

Other can be followed by a plural countable noun:

- ❖ We have other styles if you are interested.
- ❖ Have you got any other dresses, or are these the only ones?
- ❖ Some days are sunny though other days can be very rainy.
- ❖ I have invited some other people.
- ❖ I can't help you because I'm busy with other things.

Other + Ones

Other can be placed before the pronoun "ones" when the meaning is clear from the text before it:

- ❖ We don't need those books, we need other ones. (= different books)
- ❖ A: You can borrow my books if you like.
- ❖ B: Thanks, but I need other ones. (= other books)

Note: you can say other one when it refers to wanting the alternative.

- ❖ I don't want this one, I want the other one.

Others as a pronoun

Others replaces "other ones" or "other + plural noun".

Remember: Only others can be used as a pronoun and not other.

- ❖ I don't like these postcards. Let's ask for others. (others = other postcards)
- ❖ Some of the presidents arrived on Monday. Others arrived the following day.

Others - the others

Often "(the) others" refers to "(the) other people".

- ❖ He has no interest in helping others. (= in helping other people)
- ❖ What are the others doing tonight?

What is the difference between other and others?

Other is followed by a noun or a pronoun

Others is a pronoun and is NOT followed by a noun.

- ❖ These shoes are too small. Do you have any other shoes?
- ❖ These shoes are too small. Do you have any others? (no noun after others)

Some Examples

(the) other	One of the dogs was black and the other – grey.
	He is waiting for us on the other side of the street.
	This shoe is very dirty but the other one is quite clean.
	Have you any other questions?
	One or other of us will be there.
	My other sister is a doctor.
	Other issues will be discussed at the next meeting.

(the) others	I'm working alone in the office now, others are on vacation
	Some people like pizza, others don't
	There are only five sweets in the bag. Where are the others?
another	I've read many books about Zorro and yesterday I found another
	This chair is broken. Take another one!
	Can I have another jacket? Show me another!