

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

We use indefinite pronouns when the person or the object that we refer to isn't so clear. We have indefinite pronouns to refer to people, objects, and places. Indefinite pronouns always take the singular form, "there is" or only "is".

Indefinite pronouns for people:

Anybody	→	anyone
Somebody	→	someone
Nobody	→	no one
Everybody	→	everyone

Here are some rules when using indefinite pronouns for people.

1. When asking a question we normally use anybody or anyone.

Examples:

Question: Is anybody home?

Question: Is anyone at the door?

Question: Is anybody going to go to the store?

2. In answering these questions in affirmative form we use "somebody" or "someone".

Examples:

Question: Is anybody home?

Affirmative answer: Yes, someone is home.

Question: Is anybody going to help me?

Negative answer: Don't worry, someone will help you.

Question: anyone going to the party?

Affirmative answer: Sure, someone is going to the party.

3 - In answering these questions in the negative form we use the negative form of the verb "isn't" and "anybody" or "anyone".

Examples:

Question: Is anybody home?

Negative answer: No, there isn't anybody home.

Question: Is anybody going to help me?

Negative answer: No, there isn't anyone who is going to help you.

Question: Is anyone going to the party?

Negative answer: No, there isn't anybody that's going to the party.



4 - In answering the above questions in rule number three, it is much better to use “nobody” or “no one”, but we have to use the verb in the affirmative form.

Examples:

Question:	Is anybody home?
Negative answer:	No, there is nobody home.
Question:	Is anybody going to help me?
Negative answer:	No, nobody is going to help you.
Question:	Is anyone going to the party?
Negative answer:	No, no one is going to the party

Note: We can contract the following:

There is = There's
 Nobody is = Nobody's
 No one is = No one's

The rules that are stated above are also applied for things and places.
 Indefinite pronouns for things:

Anything
 Something
 Nothing
 Everything

Examples:

Question:	Is there anything on the table?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, there is something on the table.
Negative answer:	No, there isn't anything on the table.
Negative answer:	No, there's nothing on the table.
Question:	Is there anything in the refrigerator?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, there is something in the refrigerator.
Negative answer:	No, there isn't anything in the refrigerator.
Negative answer:	No, there's nothing in the refrigerator.

Indefinite pronouns for places:

Anywhere
 Somewhere
 Nowhere
 Everywhere



Examples:

Question:	Did she go anywhere for vacation last year?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, she went somewhere for vacation last year.
Negative answer:	No, she didn't go anywhere for vacation last year.
Negative answer:	No, she went nowhere for vacation last year.

When we use: anybody, anything, or anywhere at the beginning of sentences the meaning changes.

Examples:

Anybody can do it. (That is very simple)
Anywhere you go in the world you can find coca-cola.
Anything is good to eat when you are dying of hunger.



Complete the following questions with the correct indefinite pronoun. Keep in mind that sometimes, more than one answer is possible.

Examples:

There is _____ at the door. There is **somebody/someone** at the door.

1. There is _____ in the bag.
2. I am very disappointed because _____ came to my birthday party.
3. Is there _____ home?
4. My mother is very upset. She doesn't want to talk to _____
5. Is there _____ that I can do to help you?
6. There is _____ in class today. I didn't know our class was cancelled.
7. I can't believe it. _____ has been able to solve the crossword puzzle.
8. Excuse me sir. _____ left his wallet on the seat.
9. Is there _____ you want to tell me before I leave?
10. There isn't _____ else to talk about. It is over!
11. Please don't say _____. You can get us in trouble.
12. You can't always get _____ you want in life.
13. _____ has changed up to now. Everything is the same.
14. She has to do _____ her lateness at work. She is going to lose her job.
15. Would you like _____ to drink?
16. Excuse me officer! _____ stole my wallet!
17. You can leave your bag _____ you like. It is very safe in here. Don't worry.
18. Are you going to bring _____ for the party?
19. There are so many ants in this place. They seem to be _____.
20. Mommmmm _____ wants to talk to you.