



PRONOUNS: INDEFINITE (-body, -one, -thing, -where)

Somebody, anyone, everything, etc. are indefinite pronouns. We use *-body, -one, -thing, -where* to refer to people, places and things in a general way. We write them as one single word, apart from *no one*, which can be written as two separate words or with a hyphen (*no-one*).

<i>somebody</i>	<i>someone</i>	<i>something</i>	<i>somewhere</i>
<i>anybody</i>	<i>anyone</i>	<i>anything</i>	<i>anywhere</i>
<i>nobody</i>	<i>no one</i>	<i>nothing</i>	<i>nowhere</i>
<i>everybody</i>	<i>everyone</i>	<i>everything</i>	<i>everywhere</i>

SOMEBODY, SOMEONE, SOMETHING, SOMEWHERE

These words refer to a person, thing or place, without identifying which person, thing or place.

somebody / someone: an unidentified person

something: an unidentified thing

somewhere: an unidentified place

Alice says 'there's something I want to ask you.' She is saying that she has a question, but she hasn't yet identified the topic of the question. When she says: 'There's somebody else, isn't there?' this is a positive statement, followed by a question tag. Alice is saying that she believes that Paul is seeing another woman, but she doesn't know who.

More examples:

Somebody called yesterday, but I don't know who it was.

He had something to eat before he went home.

Have you seen my phone? I put it down somewhere and now I can't find it.

ANYBODY, ANYONE, ANYTHING, ANYWHERE

These words are used in questions and negative sentences, to refer to a person, thing or place, without identifying which person, thing or place.

anybody / anyone: an unidentified person


anything: an unidentified thing

anywhere: an unidentified place

Are you seeing anybody else?

I've just moved to a new town, and I don't know anyone.

I haven't had anything to eat since I arrived.

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'any-' words are also used to express conditions:

'You can park anywhere' = 'if you need a place to park, use one of these spaces.'

'It's easy to find. Ask anyone' = 'if you can't find it, ask someone: everybody knows where it is.'

NOBODY, NO-ONE, NOTHING, NOWHERE

These words are used in positive sentences, but they have negative meanings: they refer to an absence of people, things or place.

No-one is written with a hyphen between the two 'o's.

Nobody knows where it is.

No-one came to the party.

He says he knows nothing about the crime.

They are homeless. They have nowhere to live.

EVERYBODY, EVERYONE, EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE

These words are used to refer to all people, things or places. Everybody and everyone have the same meaning.

Everybody likes chocolate.

Everything closes at the end of the holiday season.

We need to tidy up. There's rubbish everywhere.

VOCABULARY

to confess:

to tell somebody that you have done something that you think is bad, or that you feel guilty about

to be seeing somebody:

to be having a romantic relationship

what's going on?

what's happening?



EXERCISES

Complete the sentences using the correct indefinite pronouns.

- I can't find my mobile phone
 - anybody
 - anywhere
 - somewhere
 - nowhere
- The glass is empty. drank my orange juice.
 - Somewhere
 - Nobody
 - Somebody
 - Anybody
- Do you know who has got red hair?
 - anybody
 - somebody
 - nobody
 - something
- is wrong with my mobile because I can't hear you.
 - Something
 - Anything
 - Nothing
 - Somebody
- All my friends are ill. is healthy.
 - Anybody
 - Somebody
 - Nothing
 - Nobody
- The music is too loud. I can't hear
 - somewhere
 - something
 - anything
 - nothing
- is looking at us. It's Sarah.
 - Nobody
 - No one
-
 - Anybody
 - Somebody
- This room is empty. is left.
 - Anything
 - Nothing
 - Something
 - Nowhere
- Rolling Stones is a very popular band. knows it.
 - Everyone
 - Everything
 - Someone
 - Anyone
- I didn't do wrong.
 - anything
 - anyone
 - something
 - nothing
- Pat and Tim are in the middle of the desert and they have to hide.
 - nowhere
 - anywhere
 - somewone
 - anybody
- A rubber is in that drawer.
 - anywhere
 - nowhere
 - somewhere
 - something
- Don't worry. will be fine.
 - Anybody
 - No one
 - Everything
 - Nobody
- We don't know where is our favourite book. We've searched
 - anywhere
 - everywhere
 - nowhere
 - anybody



15. The fridge is empty. Mary has eaten

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- a. something
- b. everywhere
- c. everyone
- d. everything

16. You can't go You're grounded.

- a. anybody
- b. somewhere
- c. nowhere
- d. anywhere

17. Kate was born in Africa.

- a. someone
- b. anyone
- c. anywhere
- d. somewhere

18. It was pitch-dark in the attic. I could see

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- a. nothing
- b. anything
- c. anybody
- d. somebody

19. We are alone. is here.

- a. Anyone
- b. No one
- c. Anybody
- d. Someone

20. Fast food can be bought almost

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- a. nowhere
- b. everything
- c. everywhere
- d. anywhere