

Emergency English

On a 911 call nobody is grading your English. Say what happened, say where you are, and stay on the phone. Half of this sheet is what you say. The other half is what the operator will say to you. Tap  to hear it. Pick your language below and it appears under every phrase.

Two short sentences save a life: **what happened, and where you are.** You do not need anything longer than that.

THE NUMBERS

911 for police, fire, and ambulance

988 for a mental health crisis

Both are free from any phone, 24 hours a day. If you think it is an emergency, call.

1 There is ____.

PUT THESE IN THE BLANK

a fire · a car accident · a flood · a gas leak · a robbery

A person is different: for a person you say **Someone is hurt**, card 5.

YOU SAY

You start the conversation.

2 I need a Spanish speaker, please.

OTHER LANGUAGES Spanish · Haitian Creole · French · Persian

3 My address is ____.

MORE WAYS I am at 444 Main Street. · I am on the corner of Main and Union.

4 I am in Middletown, New York.

5 I need an ambulance.

MORE WAYS I need the police. · I need the fire department.

6 She has a broken leg.

MORE WAYS He has a broken arm. · I have a broken hand.

7 He has chest pain.

MORE WAYS He has trouble breathing.

8 My son has a fever.

MORE WAYS My daughter has a bad cough. · I have a sore throat.

9 He is not breathing.

MORE WAYS She is choking. · Someone is hurt.

10 The house next door is on fire.

MORE WAYS There is a lot of smoke. · It is two houses from here.

11 Should I go to the hospital?

MORE WAYS What should I do? · Should I move him?

12 I do not know.

YOU WILL HEAR

The operator says this to you. You only need to understand it.

13 911. What is your emergency?

14 What is your location?

ALSO Where are you? · Can you confirm your location?

15 Are you in a safe place?

16 Is anyone with you?

17 Is he breathing?

18 Stay on the line. Do not hang up.

19 Help is on the way.

ALSO An ambulance is on the way.

IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY: THE SHORT COMMANDS

Call 911 · Stay calm · Get out of the building · Do not move him · Do not hang up · Wait outside

These start with the **verb** and no subject. That is how English gives an instruction, and it is the same grammar as **Simon says touch your nose**.

NOT AN EMERGENCY? AT THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE

a headache · a cough · a backache · an earache · a sore throat · a broken leg

You say I have a headache. The doctor asks **Do you have a headache?**

Listen carefully: your address is numbers and letters, and the operator may ask you to spell the street name. The hard ones are **B / V G / J 13 / 30 15 / 50**. Practice on the [Alphabet Card](#) and the [Numbers Card](#).

 On a phone or computer, tap a phrase to hear it. On paper, start with the two numbers at the top.

IF YOU DID NOT UNDERSTAND, YOU ALREADY KNOW WHAT TO SAY

I don't understand. · Please speak more slowly. · Can you repeat that?

All of them are on [Important English Phrases](#).

Patina

Patina English · Class 8 · Reference Sheet

Suggest a correction or improvement