

Level: Pre-A1

Lesson: When is your birthday?

Language Focus: Talking about dates (months, ordinal numbers, years.)

Warm up (5 min)

- Do you know how to say “dates” in English?
- For example, when is your birthday?



1. Vocabulary (5 min)

Directions: With the help of your teacher, get familiar with the meaning and pronunciation of the following nouns. Pay closer attention to the “th” sound.

- birth**th**day /'berzh-deɪ/ (Spanish: *cumpleaños*)
- date /deɪt/ (Spanish: *fecha*)
- date of birth**th** /'deɪ-rov-'berzh/ (Spanish: *fecha de nacimiento*)
- month /monz/ (Spanish: *mes*)



2. Listening (10 min)

Directions: Listen to four conversations and answer the questions below:

2.1. What are the people talking about?

- A. Today’s date
- B. People’s birthdays
- C. Holidays

2.2. Listen again and say the four dates that are mentioned in these conversations. We recommend that you take notes.

3. Pronunciation Practice: Transcripts (5 min)

Directions: Under your teacher’s supervision, read the transcripts out loud for pronunciation assessment.

1.

Her: What’s your date of birth?

Him: It's March 14th, 1977.

2.

Her: What's your sister's date of birth?

Him: It's May 28th, 1988.

3.

Her: What's your brother's date of birth?

Him: It's Sep 2nd, 1962.

4.

Her: Yu Pin, when is your birthday?

Him: My birthday is July 29th.

4. **Saying the Date in English** (25 min)

4.1. **Order of Days and Months When Saying the Date** (10 min)

In spoken American English, people usually use the following structure to say the date: *month + day, year*. Example: December 25th, 2019.

Saying the Date		
Month	Day (Ordinal Numbers)	Year
December	25th*	2019
/ˈdi-zem-ber/	(twenty-fifth)	(twenty-nineteen)

*Notice that ordinal numbers are typically used for dates in spoken English, although in written English you may use a normal (cardinal) number without the -TH or -ST after it.

Years are normally divided into two parts; the first two digits and the last two digits.

2019 is divided into 20 and 19 so you would say twenty nineteen.

- 1975 = nineteen seventy-five
- 1999 = nineteen eighty-two
- 2017 = twenty seventeen
- 2021 = twenty twenty-one

4.2. Months of the Year (5 min)

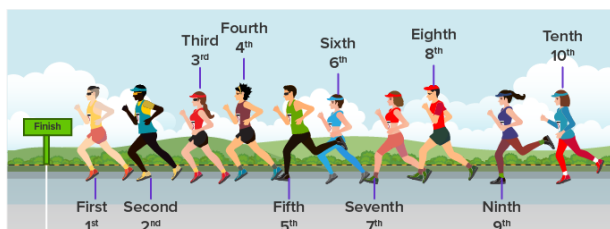
Directions: With the help of your teacher, practice the pronunciation of each month of the year.



Month	Pronunciation
January	<i>/ˈyja-niu-éri/</i>
February	<i>/ˈfe-bru-éri/</i>
March	<i>/march/</i>
April	<i>/ˈeɪ-pril/</i>
May	<i>/meɪ/</i>
June	<i>/yyun/</i>
July	<i>/yyu-ˈlaɪ/</i>
August	<i>/ˈo-gōst/</i>
September	<i>/sep-ˈtem-ber/</i>
October	<i>/ak-ˈtou-ber/</i>
November	<i>/nou-ˈvem-ber/</i>
December	<i>/dɪ-zem-ber/</i>

4.3. Ordinal Numbers (5 min)

Directions: With the help of your teacher, practice the pronunciation of ordinal numbers.



We already know the ordinal numbers: *one, two, three, etc.* However, **ordinal numbers** indicate **order, position**. They are not the same! (*Ya conocemos los números cardinales: uno, dos, tres. Sin embargo, los números ordinales indican orden, posición. ¡No son iguales!*)

Ordinal Number	Number (in letters)	Pronunciation Aid
1 st	<i>first</i>	<i>/ferst/</i>
2 nd	<i>second</i>	<i>/ˈse-kon^d/</i>
3 rd	<i>third</i>	<i>/zherd/</i>
4 th	<i>fourth</i>	<i>/forzh/</i>
5 th	<i>fifth</i>	<i>/fi^fzh/</i>
6 th	<i>sixth</i>	<i>/sɪkzh/</i>
7 th	<i>seven</i>	<i>/ˈse-venzh/</i>
8 th	<i>eighth</i>	<i>/eitzh/</i>
9 th	<i>nineth</i>	<i>/naɪnzh/</i>
10 th	<i>tenth</i>	<i>/tenzh/</i>
11 th	<i>eleventh</i>	<i>/ɪ-ˈle-venzh/</i>
12 th	<i>twelfth</i>	<i>/tuelvzh/</i>
13 th	<i>thirteenth</i>	<i>/zher-ˈtiinzh/</i>
14 th	<i>fourteenth</i>	<i>/for-ˈtiinzh/</i>
15 th	<i>fifteen</i>	<i>/fif-ˈtiinzh/</i>
16 th	<i>sixteenth</i>	<i>/siks-ˈtiinzh/</i>
17 th	<i>seventeenth</i>	<i>/se-ven-ˈtiinzh/</i>
18 th	<i>eighteenth</i>	<i>/eɪ-ˈtiinzh/</i>
19 th	<i>nineteenth</i>	<i>/naɪn-ˈtiinzh/</i>
20 th	<i>twentieth</i>	<i>/ˈtue-ni-ezh/</i>
30 th	<i>thirtieth</i>	<i>/ˈzher-ti-ezh/</i>

5. Testing your Comprehension: Saying Dates (5 min)

Directions: How would you say the following dates in English?

- 09/13/2018 September Thirteenth, Twenty-Eighteen.
- 03/15/1979 _____
- 10/24/1986 _____
- 06/30/2010 _____
- 01/03/1945 _____
- 11/20/2008 _____
- 12/11/1998 _____
- 05/21/2005 _____
- 02/14/1967 _____
- 04/06/2001 _____
- 08/04/1952 _____

6. Speaking: Family Birthdays (10 min)

Directions: In turns, talk about your family birthdays. The following questions may serve as a basis. Make sure to talk about three people at least.

- a) When is your mother/father's birthday? Where are your parents from?
- b) When is your brother/sister's birthday? How old is she/he? (if applicable)
- c) When is your son/daughter's birthday? How old are your children? (if applicable)
- d) When is your best friend's birthday? Who's your best friend?
- e) Are birthdays special for you?

