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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## 6 Minute Grammar

### Too, very, enough



*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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**Catherine**

Hello. Welcome to 6 Minute Grammar with me, Catherine.

**Rob**

And me, Rob. Hello.

**Catherine**

Today's programme is all about describing things.

**Rob**

That's right. We're going to explain how to use the words **too** and **very** with adjectives to describe things.

**Catherine**

We are, and we'll show you how to use the word **enough** with adjectives and nouns ...

**Rob**

... we'll explain the difference between **too much** and **too many**...

**Catherine**

and we'll finish with a quiz – so listen carefully.

**Rob**

And to help us with all our example sentences today we're bringing you this episode of 6 Minute Grammar from a clothes shop.

**Catherine**

Yes, we're clothes shopping!

**Rob**

We are, well, Catherine's clothes shopping.

**Catherine**

I'm going to a party. Rob, look, this blue dress - I love it - do you?

**Rob**

It's not really my colour.

**Catherine**

You're not going to wear it Rob. Actually... it's too big. Oooh – this one's nice – what do you think Rob?

**Rob**

It's a bit short isn't it.

**Catherine**

Mmmm... It's too small.

**Rob**

Too big... too small. Catherine used the word **too** here with the adjectives **big** and **small** to say that that the dress is not right – it's bigger or smaller than she wants or needs.

**Catherine**

Right! Rob! Found one - red one, look. What do you think?

**Rob**

I do like the colour. It suits you.

**Catherine**

It is lovely but... it's very expensive!

**Rob**

Yes, [whistles] £150. I see what you mean... So, we use **very** with an adjective to make it stronger. The red dress is not just **expensive** – it's **very expensive**.

**Catherine**

Very, very expensive. But look! Green one, look at this green one, it's cheaper – and it looks big enough. What do you think, Rob?

**Rob**

It does suit you and it's cheaper. Let's take it before you change your mind... Do you have enough money?

**Catherine**

Do I have enough money! Are you serious? Yes, of course...

**Rob**

Let's see your purse then. So, the word **enough** with an adjective describes the right amount of something. So, the green dress is **big enough** – and **long enough**. We've found it! We've got the dress! Hooray!

**Catherine**

Er Rob... Actually, I don't have **enough cash** on me...and I've left my credit card in the office... I don't suppose... would you mind...?

**Rob**

What are you saying...? Ok, ok... How much is it? ...so we can also use **enough** before a noun to say that we have the right amount of something: so we can ask: Do you have **enough money**? ... and we can also use **enough** in the negative to say we have less of something than we need. Catherine doesn't have enough cash.

**Catherine**

Thank you Rob. You're very generous.

**Rob**

Ok, time for a recap. We use **too** before an adjective:

**Catherine**

The blue dress is **too small**.

**Rob**

**Very** goes before an adjective...

**Catherine**

The red dress is **very expensive**.

**Rob**

**Enough** goes after an adjective...

**Catherine**

This dress is **big enough**.

**Rob**

And **enough** goes before a noun...

**Catherine**

I don't have **enough money**.

**Rob**

Let's go. I've done enough shopping for today.

**Catherine**

Ok, come on.

**IDENT**

6 Minute Grammar, from BBC Learning English.

**Rob**

Phew ... We're back in the studio. It's just like magic isn't it! And Catherine, you got the dress so, how was the party?

**Catherine**

Well, it was great except ... I ate **too much food**... and ...

**Rob**

...yes?

**Catherine**

...there were **too many people** wearing my dress!

**Rob...**

Oh, that's a pity. So this is **too** with **much** and **many** to talk about an amount or number of something that's more or less than we want or need.

**Catherine**

Yes, I ate more food than I needed.

**Rob**

... and it's a pity there were too many green dresses. So, for plural countable nouns like **dresses**, we use **too many** – **too many dresses, too many people**.

**Catherine**

Yes, and for uncountable nouns like **food** and **money**, we use **too much**.

**Rob**

...and Catherine ate **too much food** ...

**Catherine**

...and the red dress cost **too much money**.

**Rob**

It did, luckily. Now, be careful not to use **very** with strong adjectives. You cannot say the party was very fantastic...

**Catherine**

Instead, say: the party was **absolutely** fantastic!

**Rob**

But not for you! And now, it's time for a quiz! Fill the gaps. Number one. I can't hear you - there's too [beep] noise.

**Catherine**

And the answer is: I can't hear you – there's too **much** noise.

**Rob**

Good. Number two. Hiro is only 13. He's not old [beep] to drive yet.

**Catherine**

Hiro is only 13. He's not old **enough** to drive yet.

**Rob**

And Number three. Those shoes don't fit me. They are [beep] small.

**Catherine**

Those shoes don't fit me. They are **too** small.

**Rob**

So, no more parties, then?

**Catherine**

...Well actually Rob, there's one at the weekend and... I saw a lovely pair of blue shoes, they're not too expensive...

**Rob**

You've got time to go and get your credit card for this one – I'm not paying! There's more about this on our website at [bbclearningenglish.com](http://bbclearningenglish.com). Join us again for more 6 Minute Grammar soon.

**Both**

Bye.

**STING**