

Wanna (want to) Gotta (got to) Gonna (going to)

Want to - Wanna

Many words in English are shortened or joined together when people are speaking quickly. One of the most common examples of this is 'want to' becoming 'wanna.'

For example, the sentence "*I want to go to sleep now*" may be pronounced "*I wanna go to sleep now.*"

Both "want to" and "wanna" are always followed by the base form of the verb.

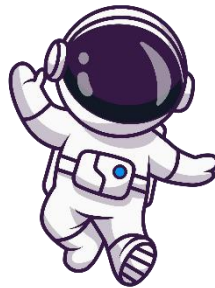
For example: "*I don't wanna study grammar right now!*" ('study' is the base form of the verb)

Note: We usually do not write 'wanna', this is just how it can be pronounced.



1. Complete the sentences with 'wanna' and any verb that makes sense in the context.

- a) I ...e.g. "*wanna eat/have/make*"..... dinner soon, I'm really hungry.
- b) He doesn't *wanna go* to the party, he's too tired.
- c) I *wanna go/fly/travel* to Hawaii for my next holiday, but unfortunately it's too expensive.
- d) I don't *wanna fly/go* in a helicopter, I'm scared!
- e) Do you *wanna go* to a heavy metal concert with me?
- f) I *wanna / buy / get* a new laptop soon, mine is really old.
- g) My girlfriend doesn't *wanna talk / speak* to me at the moment, we had a fight last night.
- h) When I grow up I *wanna be /become* an astronaut.





2. Read the holiday packages and write sentences on the next page about which holiday you want to go on and which you don't, and why.

Fall in Love with Paris!

Enjoy a week in a luxury hotel with the finest French cuisine, right in the centre of Paris! This package comes with guided tours of the iconic sights of Paris, including the Eiffel Tower and the fantastic clothes shops on the Champs-Élysées. All meals included, breakfast buffet every day. Rooms have baths, air conditioning, and balconies.



Price: \$7000, *no refunds*.

Escape to the Swiss Alps!

Breathe in the fresh air and enjoy the amazing views on this 7-day hiking/camping trip in Switzerland! Hike through the Alps, relax by a campfire under the stars, try mountain biking, kayaking, and even hunting! Whether you're chasing adventure or looking for some peace and quiet, Switzerland has it all!

Price: \$3500



Say Aloha to Paradise!

Take your partner on a magical 7-day all inclusive romantic tour of the islands of Hawaii! Stay in a small romantic cabin on the beach, enjoy a sunset boat ride, and seafood dinners on the beach! Book your all-inclusive trip today! Cabins include Wi-Fi and electricity, but no hot water!

Cost: \$4000



A Great Indian Adventure!!

Hike through the stunning Himalayas for three days, explore the deserts of Rajasthan while riding on camels for two days, and finish with two relaxing days on the golden beaches of Goa! Flights between Rajasthan and Goa and budget accommodation included.

Price: \$2800



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3. Now read, compare, and discuss your reasons with a partner (trying to use the 'wanna' pronunciation).



4. Jeff and Janet are deciding where to go on holiday together. Listen to their conversation¹ and answer the questions.

- Why doesn't Janet want to go to Switzerland? *She doesn't like hiking*
- When did Janet go to Paris? *5 years ago*
- What 3 reasons does Jeff give for why he doesn't want to go to Paris? *It's expensive, he doesn't like having all the meals included in the hotel because he wants to eat out, and he thinks doing a tour of a clothes shopping street is stupid.*
- What is the main reason Janet likes the India trip? *She loves camels and wants to ride one.*
- Why does Janet like that there is no hot water in the cabin in Hawaii? *She can run into the ocean every morning.*
- Why do they choose the Hawaii trip over the India trip? *They need a relaxing holiday, not an adventurous one.*

¹ <https://quick-and-easy-english.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Wanna-1.mp3>

Have got to - Gotta

In the same way that 'want to' is often shortened to 'wanna', 'got to' is often shortened to 'gotta.'

'Have + got to' + (base verb) is a common way of saying *have to* or *must*.

For example: "*I have got to book the trip tomorrow*" is the same as saying "*I must book the trip tomorrow.*"

With he / she / it statements, 'have got to' becomes 'has got to.'

For example: "*She has got to be at the airport by 5pm.*"

Note: 'have' and 'has' are almost always shortened to 've and 's in this structure.

For example: "*I've gotta buy some sunscreen for the holiday*" or "*He's gotta pack his bags today.*"



5. Complete the sentences with 'have got to' or 'has got to' and any verb that makes sense in the context.

- a) I *have got to clean / tidy up* my house, I have friends coming for dinner tonight and it's really dirty.
- b) She *has got to go* to the dentist, she has an appointment at 3pm today.
- c) You *have got to see / watch* this movie, it's absolutely amazing!
- d) We *have got to study / prepare* for the test tomorrow, it's going to be hard.
- e) I *have got to ask* my boss if I want to take time off work.
- f) They *have got to check into / leave* their Airbnb at 5:30pm.
- g) I *have got to buy / get / find* some souvenirs and postcards for my family.
- h) We *have got to organise / get / buy / arrange* travel insurance before we go to North Korea.
- i) Frank *has got to get / have his* driving license before he can drive across Africa.



6. Now read your sentences to the class with the 've gotta' or 's gotta' pronunciation.



7. Now write five sentences about things you have to do using the 've got to' structure.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)



8. Now read and discuss your sentences with a partner (trying to use the 've gotta' pronunciation).



9. Jeff and Janet are now planning their Hawaii holiday. Listen to their conversation² and answer the questions.

- a) What time have they got to wake up at on Sunday? *1:30 am*
- b) Who is going to apply for their visas? *Jeff is going to do that.*
- c) What does Janet have to tell their bank, and why? *She has to tell them they are travelling so they can use their credit cards overseas.*
- d) Why doesn't Janet want to bring many things on the trip? *They can only take 1 bag each.*
- e) What email does Jeff need to send his boss, and why? *An email with notes about what he's working on, he needs to send this so his colleagues know what to work on.*
- f) Who do you think Daisy is? *A dog*

² <https://quick-and-easy-english.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Gotta-2.mp3>

Going to - Gonna

We can use (verb be) + 'going to' + (base verb) to talk about the future.

For example: *"I **am (verb be) going to have (base verb)** a party next weekend, would you like to come?"*

The negative structure is (verb be) + 'not going to' + (base verb).

For example: *"We **are not going to fly to New York, it's too expensive.**"*

In the same way that 'got to' is often shortened to 'gotta', 'going to' is often shortened to 'gonna.'

For example: *"I'm **gonna have a party next weekend, would you like to come?**"*

Note that 'wanna', 'have gotta', and 'gonna' are all followed by a base verb.

For example: *"I **wanna buy a new car.**"*

*"I've **gotta buy a new car.**"*

*"I'm **gonna buy a new car.**"*



10. Complete the sentences with (verb be)+ 'going to' and any verb that makes sense in the context.

- a) I **am going to go / fly / move** to Paris tomorrow, I'm so excited!
- b) She **is going to buy** a house next year, so she needs to save money.
- c) We **are not going to go** (negative) a restaurant tonight, I'd prefer to stay home and cook.
- d) I **am going to get / buy / rent** a motorbike and ride across Vietnam!
- e) He **is going to apply / ask** for a visa soon, he needs to get some documents first.
- f) They **are going to go to / visit / fly to** Italy next summer.
- g) I **am not going to go / try / do** (negative) bungee jumping, it's too scary.
- h) Tom **is going to read** his new book while he's on holiday.
- i) I **am going to lie / sit** on the beach and get a tan!



11. Now read your sentences to the class with the 'gonna' pronunciation.



12. Now write five sentences about things you are going to do in the next few months. Two of them should be a lie.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)



13. Read your sentences to the class and see if they can guess which sentences are lies.



14. Jeff and Janet are now lying on a beach in Hawaii. Listen to their conversation³ and answer the questions.

- a) When is Jeff going to get in the water? *After he unpacks the bags and has a beer.*
- b) Who does Janet need to message, and why? *Her mum, she has to message her mum to tell he she's ok because her mum is scared of flying.*
- c) What is Jeff going to turn off, and why? *His work email account, he's gonna turn it off because he doesn't want to think about work.*
- d) What type of lessons is Janet going to do, and why isn't Jeff going to join her? *Surf lessons, he's not going to join because he isn't good at swimming.*
- e) Why isn't Janet going to go fishing with Jeff? *Because she doesn't like waking up early.*
- f) What are they going to do together? *They are going to cook dinner together.*

³ <https://quick-and-easy-english.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Gonna-3.mp3>

Audio Transcript 1

Jeff: Ok, did you have a look at the holiday ideas I sent you?

Janet: I did, they look great! I liked almost all of them! Where do you wanna go?

Jeff: Almost all of them? Which one don't you like?

Janet: Well the Switzerland trip is my least favourite. I really don't wanna go camping, I hate camping, so the Switzerland trip is a no for me.

Jeff: Ok, no problem, that's off the list then. I really wanna go to Switzerland at some point, I wanna go skiing in the Alps, but maybe that can wait till next year. Ok so what trip was your favourite?

Janet: I'm pretty sure you already know which trip I want.

Jeff: Let me guess... you wanna go to Paris?

Janet: I do! It looks amazing and so romantic! And there are so many things I wanna do there! I was researching it today and I found this amazing restaurant I wanna try. Have you ever been to Paris? I went 5 years ago with my parents, it was amazing.

Jeff: I haven't been to Paris, I really wanna see it at some point...

Janet: but?

Jeff: But it's by far the most expensive travel package here. I don't wanna spend \$7000 for a one week holiday. On top of that the package says all meals are included, I wanna go and eat the local food, not eat every meal in a hotel.

Janet: True, but it also says that it includes a tour of the Eiffel tower and a tour of the shopping streets, that could be fun.

Jeff: Actually that's another thing I don't like, I've never heard of a tour of a clothes shopping street before, that just sounds strange. A guided tour of the Eiffel tower sounds great, but a guided tour of clothes shops? No thanks, I don't wanna do that.

Janet: (Sigh) ok, good point. Ok, not the Paris trip then... not this year at least. What about India? I liked the look of that.

Jeff: Really? I didn't think you'd wanna go on that one? You don't like hiking right?

Janet: I'm not a huge fan of hiking, but I can do it for three days. The main reason I like that one is a really really wanna ride a camel. I love camels.

Jeff: I didn't know that about you! Ok, I like the India trip, but Hawaii looks great too.

Janet: Yeah it does, India looks more like an adventure, but Hawaii looks a bit more romantic to me.

Jeff: Well no hot water sounds pretty adventurous to me, but I see what you mean.

Janet: I actually like that there is no hot water. I wanna wake up every morning and run into the ocean!

Jeff: Ha, well you do that, as long as I can make coffee, I don't need a hot shower.

Janet: So which do you wanna do? India or Hawaii?

Jeff: I like of both of them... but the last year has been really stressful for us, you had to find a new job, and I've been stressed at work... I feel like we need a relaxing holiday, I don't wanna come back from holiday even more tired and stressed than when we left.

Janet: So... we're going to Hawaii?

Jeff: We're going to Hawaii!

Janet: Ooooooh I can't wait!

Jeff: Me too, I'm so excited. I've gotta book the trip tomorrow though, there aren't many places left.

Audio Transcript 2

Jeff: Ok, I booked the trip, we leave on Sunday at 5am.

Janet: Oh my god I'm so excited! Does the flight leave at 5am, or do we have to leave the house at 5am?

Jeff: Let me check... the flight leaves at 5am, so we've gotta wake up super early on Sunday. Should we wake up at about.... 3am?

Janet: 3am?? Jeff I'm sorry but we've gotta wake up way earlier than that, We should be at the airport at 3am, and it takes an hour to get there, so ... I think we've gotta wake up at about half past one.

Jeff: Ouch. But yeah, ok, you're right. And there's quite a few things we've gotta organise

before the trip.

Janet: I thought the travel agency would organise everything?

Jeff: Well sure, they've gotta organise the flights and the cabin, but we've gotta organise everything else. Like the visas for example.

Janet: Oh my god I didn't even think about the visas! Do we have time to apply for them?

Jeff: It's fine, the travel agent said they usually only take a day or two, and you can apply for them online. Still, I've gotta do that today, and I'll apply for yours too.

Janet: Ok great, thanks. And I've gotta tell our bank that we're travelling so we can use our credit cards in Hawaii. Remember last holiday when we couldn't use an ATM?

Jeff: Oh my god, that was a nightmare. And of course we've still gotta pack our bags for the trip, but I guess we can do that on Saturday. I'm gonna make a list of things to bring just so we don't forget anything.

Janet: Good idea, but don't put too many things on the list, we can only bring one bag each, so we've gotta pack light.

Jeff: True. And I've still gotta send my boss an email with notes on all the projects I'm working on so someone else can do my work while away.

Janet: He does know you're going on holiday right?

Jeff: Of course, I told him months ago. It's just I've got to send all the information about my work so my colleagues know what to do.

Janet: Ok great... I feel like we're forgetting something

Jeff: ahhh ...Oh my god what about Daisy??

Janet: Oh wow, how did we forget about her, we've still gotta find someone who can feed her and take her for walks while we're away.

Jeff: Do you know my friend James? He lives close to here and he loves animals, so I could ask him.

Janet: Ok, that's a great idea, hopefully he says yes... I can't believe we forgot about Daisy!

Jeff: Me too!

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Audio Transcript 3

Wave sounds in the background

Jeff: Ahhhh this was definitely the right choice. This place is amazing!

Janet: Totally, it's so beautiful here. Did you get in the water yet?

Jeff: Not yet, I'm gonna unpack our bags first and then I'm gonna have a beer, and then I'm gonna get in the water.

Janet: The water is amazing, it's so warm! I'm not gonna miss having hot water in the cabin!

Jeff: Fantastic! So... what do you wanna do today?

Janet: Honestly... I don't wanna do anything. I'm still tired from the flight, but I wanna go for a walk and explore the area, but I've gotta message my mum first to let her know we're ok. She's really scared of flying and she gets scared every time I fly, so I need to tell her I'm ok.

Jeff: Ok no problem, that reminds me, I'm gonna answer a couple of emails from work.

Janet: What? Jeff come on, we're on holiday, I don't wanna spend the whole holiday thinking about work.

Jeff: Ok, you're right, let me just answer two really important ones and then I'm gonna turn off my work email account.

Janet: Ok, thank you. Oh also I saw there is a surfboard shop about 10 minutes walk from here that does surfing lessons, I'm gonna walk over there and see if I can book a couple of lessons, do you wanna join me?

Jeff: You wanna learn to surf? I didn't know you're interested in surfing.

Janet: Well I saw the surf shop as we were driving in and thought, why not? So, are you

gonna learn to surf with me?

Jeff: I'm sorry, I'm not gonna do that. I've never been good at swimming, I prefer just sitting on the beach and getting some sun. Oh by the way, I'm gonna wake up early tomorrow and go fishing, do you wanna come?

Janet: Oh no, I hate fishing, I always feel so bad for the fish!

Jeff: Well if it makes you feel better, if I catch any fish I'm gonna throw them back in the ocean.

Janet: Really? You're not gonna cook them?

Jeff: Nope. I just like catching them and then putting them back. So are you gonna come?

Janet: Mmmm sorry I also hate waking up early. We should do something together tomorrow though.

Jeff: How about we cook dinner tomorrow? I'm going to go to the supermarket tomorrow, so maybe we should find a nice meal to cook together.

Janet: Ah that's a great idea, I'm gonna look for a nice meal we can make and I'll send you the ingredients, maybe we could try a Hawaiiin meal?

Jeff: Sounds great! Now I'm gonna go and unpack our bags, message your mum before she has a heart attack!

Janet: Ok I will.