

Unit 99

Enough and too

a The position of **enough**:

Enough goes *after* adjectives and adverbs:

- He didn't get job because he wasn't **experienced enough**. (not 'enough experienced')
- You won't pass the examination if you don't work **hard enough**.
- She can't get married yet. She's not **old enough**.

Enough goes *before* nouns:

- He didn't get the job because he didn't have **enough experience**. (not 'experience enough')
- I'd like to go on holiday but I haven't **enough money**.
- Some of us had to sit on the floor because there weren't **enough chairs**.

You can also use **enough** alone (without a noun):

- I'll lend you some money if you haven't got **enough**.

b After **enough** and **too** you can say **for someone/something**:

- I haven't got enough money **for a holiday**.
- He wasn't experienced enough **for the job**.
- This shirt is too big **for me**. I need a smaller size.

But we do not usually say 'enough/too ... for doing something'. We use **to + infinitive** after **enough** and **too**. So we say 'enough money **to do** something', 'old **enough to do** something', 'too young **to do** something' etc.:

- I haven't got **enough money to go** on holiday. (not 'for going')
- He wasn't **experienced enough to go** the job.
- She's only sixteen. She's **not old enough to get** married. (or She's **too young to get** married.)
- Let's get a taxi. It's **too far to walk**.
- There weren't **enough chairs for everyone to sit** down.
- The weather wasn't **nice enough to go** swimming.
- He spoke **too quickly for us to understand**.

c We say:

- The food was so hot that we couldn't eat **it**.
and: The food was very hot. We couldn't eat **it**.

or we say:

- The food was **too hot to eat**. (without 'it')

Here are some more examples like this:

- That picture is **too heavy to hang** on the wall.
- I had to carry my wallet in my hand. It was **too big to put** in my pocket.
- The water wasn't **clean enough to swim** in.

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