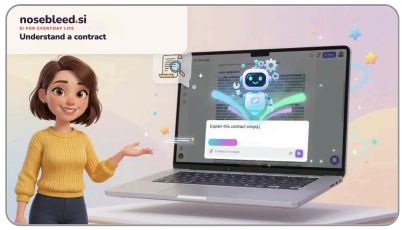
Understand a contract



Use AI to pick out what matters in the small print: how long, how much, and how to leave.

By the end, you'll be able to:

- find the key terms in a contract
- ask AI to sum up the terms in plain English
- check the summary, and know your rights

Warm-up Have you ever been caught out by small print?

Talk about it with your group. A price rise? A cancellation fee? An automatic renewal?

1 Read the terms

Here are the key terms of a made-up mobile phone contract.

MADE-UP SAMPLE CONTRACT
ChatterMobile · SIM-only plan (made-up sample)
1. Minimum term: **24 months**.
2. Monthly price: **£18**. Each April, your monthly price will go up by **£1.50**.
3. If you leave before the end of the minimum term, you'll pay a fee of the monthly charges left, less 3%.
4. You can cancel within **14 days** of joining without paying a fee.
5. After the minimum term, your plan carries on month to month until you cancel. You can then leave with 30 days' notice.

How long is the contract? _____

How much will it cost a month after the first April rise? _____

Part 1, continued.

What happens at the end of the 24 months? _____

Can you change your mind? By when? _____

2 Ask AI to sum it up

If you have a device, try this prompt with the terms.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Please sum up these contract terms in plain English, as a short list: how long it lasts, how much it costs (including any rises), how to cancel and what it would cost. Please don't leave anything out. Here are the terms:

3 Spot the mistake

EXAMPLE AI SUMMARY

This is a 24-month contract at £18 a month, rising by £1.50 each April. You can cancel at any time for free.

The mistake is:

4 Questions to ask

Before you sign a contract, what would you ask? Write two questions.

5 Good habits

- Always check AI's summary against the contract itself.
- Look for: how long, how much, any price rises, and how to leave.
- For something big, like a care home or building work, get advice from a person.

> **No device?** In pairs, one of you is the salesperson and one the customer. The customer asks about the length, price rises and how to cancel.

Find out more: read the free step-by-step guide, with a 10-second video, at **nosebleed.si/ideas/understand-a-contract**

Teacher notes: Understand a contract

Time: 45 to 60 minutes

Level: beginners; no AI experience needed

Group: any size; works well in pairs

You'll need: a copy per learner; phones or tablets with an AI chat app (optional)

Before the session

Try the prompt with the sample terms. ChatterMobile is made up. In the UK, phone and broadband price rises must now be shown in pounds and pence, as here.

Running order

5 min	**Warm-up.** Being caught out by small print.
15 min	**Part 1.** Read the terms and answer the questions.
15 min	**Parts 2 and 3.** Try the prompt, then spot the mistake.
10 min	**Parts 4 and 5.** Questions, then good habits.
5 min	**Wrap-up.** Check the summary against the contract.

Answers: Part 1

Length: 24 months.
After the first rise: £19.50 a month.
At the end: it carries on month to month, and you can leave with 30 days' notice.
Change your mind: yes, within 14 days of joining, with no fee.

Answer: Part 3

You **can't** cancel for free at any time. After the first 14 days, leaving early costs the monthly charges left (less 3%). Leaving out a cost like this is a serious mistake.

Discussion points

- In the UK, you usually have 14 days to cancel many things bought online or by phone.
- Citizens Advice can help with consumer rights.

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