

1

the verb *to be* (1)

FORM

affirmative

I	am	happy.
You		
We	are	
They		
He		
She	is	
It		

short forms

In spoken and informal English, it is natural to use short forms of the verb *to be*.

I	am	=	I'm
You	are	=	You're
We	are	=	We're
They	are	=	They're
He	is	=	He's
She	is	=	She's
It	is	=	It's

We can also use short forms with names.

John is tall. = John's tall.

London is a very big city. = London's a very big city.

USE

We use the verb *to be* to talk about

- ages. *I'm 16 and my brother is six.*
- occupations. *She's a student and her parents are teachers.*
- prices. *This watch is £30.*
- the time. *It's nine o'clock.*
- feelings and states. *I'm hungry.*
- nationality. *They're Argentinian.*
- colours. *His eyes are blue.*

1 Complete the spaces with *is, are, or am*.

- a Cars are expensive.
- b John _____ a student.
- c I _____ the best in the class.
- d My sister _____ a teacher.
- e The train _____ late again.
- f You _____ in class 3B.
- g That computer _____ very slow.
- h It _____ cold today.
- i We _____ interested in shopping.
- j I _____ tired.
- k Stephanie and Luke _____ from Canada.

2 Rewrite these sentences using the short form.

- a She is funny. She's funny.
- b They are clever. _____
- c We are cold. _____
- d I am an astronaut. _____
- e He is tall. _____
- f You are friendly. _____
- g They are kind. _____
- h She is a good teacher. _____
- i They are bad dogs. _____
- j You are nice students. _____
- k Sally is 15 years old. _____

3 Use the prompts to write a sentence. Use short forms.

- a He / angry He's angry.
- b They / happy _____
- c It / hot now _____
- d You / intelligent _____
- e We / unhappy today _____
- f I / a doctor _____
- g You / good students _____
- h She / from Mexico _____
- i My eyes / green _____
- j We / Australian _____
- k Michael / young _____



2

the verb *to be* (2)

FORM

negative

I	am not	(I'm not)	
You		(You're not / You aren't)	
We	are not	(We're not / We aren't)	
They		(They're not / They aren't)	interested.
He		(He's not / He isn't)	
She	is not	(She's not / She isn't)	
It		(It's not / It isn't)	

questions

Am	I		
	you		
Are	we		
	they	late?	
	he		
Is	she		
	it		

short answers

Yes,	I	am.	No,	I'm not.
	you			you're not / you aren't.
Yes,	we	are.	No,	we're not / we aren't.
	they			they're not / they aren't.
	he			he's not / he isn't.
Yes,	she	is.	No,	she's not / she isn't.
	it			it's not / it isn't.

USE

We can use the verb *to be* to ask about

- ages. *How old **are** you? **Is** he 16?*
- occupations. ***Are** you a student? No, **I'm** not.*
- prices. *How much **is** this? **Is** it expensive?*
- the time. ***Is** it ten o' clock? No, it **isn't**. **It's** eleven o' clock.*
- feelings and states. ***I'm not** tired. **Are** you tired?*
- nationality. *No, they're **not** Spanish, they're **re** French. **Are** you English?*
- colours. *His eyes **aren't** green, they're **re** blue.*

Includes material from Units 1 and 2.

1 Complete the sentence with *is, is not, are, are not, am* or *am not*.

- a I *am not* Spanish, I'm Greek.
- b Peter a good student. He's a bad one!
- c Our eyes blue. They're brown.
- d My sister a police officer, she's a journalist.
- e his brother tall?
- f The bus late, it's here now.
- g you okay?
- h That film very good. The story is very boring.
- i They tired, they're hungry.
- j it cold today?

2 Write short answers to the questions.

- a Are you a good student? *Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.*
- b Are your parents at home now?
- c Is it Monday today?
- d Are you hungry?
- e Are your friends with you now?
- f Is your school in a large city?
- g Is it cold outside?
- h Are you young?
- i Is English easy?
- j Are these exercises difficult?

3 Correct the sentences.

- a ~~12.00~~ 14.00 ✓
It's twelve o'clock. *No, it isn't. It's two o'clock.*
- b ~~16.00~~ 17.00 ✓
It's four o'clock.
- c ~~Thursday~~ Friday ✓
It's Thursday today.
- d ~~nurse~~ doctor ✓
She's a nurse.
- e ~~doctor~~ engineer ✓
He's a doctor.
- f ~~€50~~ €60 ✓
The tickets are 50 euros.
- g ~~\$1.50~~ \$1.60 ✓
It's one dollar, fifty.
- h ~~expensive~~ cheap ✓
They're expensive.
- i ~~13~~ 14 ✓
Julian is thirteen.

4 Use the prompts and *is*, *is not*, *are* or *are not* to write full sentences. The map will help you.



- 1 Andorra
- 2 Luxembourg
- 3 Lichtenstein
- 4 Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 5 Serbia and Montenegro

- a Berlin / Germany
Berlin is in Germany.
- b Paris / France
.....
- c Lyon / Spain
.....
- d Milan and Turin / Italy
.....
- e Brussels and Strasbourg / Germany
.....
- f Spain / the south of Europe
.....
- g Norway / the south of Europe
.....
- h Lisbon / Portugal?
.....
- i Bern and Basle / Switzerland?
.....
- j you / Europe?
.....

5 Complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verb *to be*. Use short forms where possible.

DANIELA: Hello. **a** *Are* you from here?

ESTEVAN: No, we **b** . **c** you?

DANIELA: No, I **d** from Italy. My name **e** Daniela.

ESTEVAN: Nice to meet you. I **f** Estevan. And this **g** Maite and Javier.

DANIELA: This **h** Estelle, and this **i** Maria. Where **j** you from?

ESTEVAN: We **k** from Spain.

DANIELA: I you from Madrid?

ESTEVAN: No, we **m** . We **n** from the north of Spain. Javier and I **o** from Bilbao, and Maite **p** from San Sebastian.

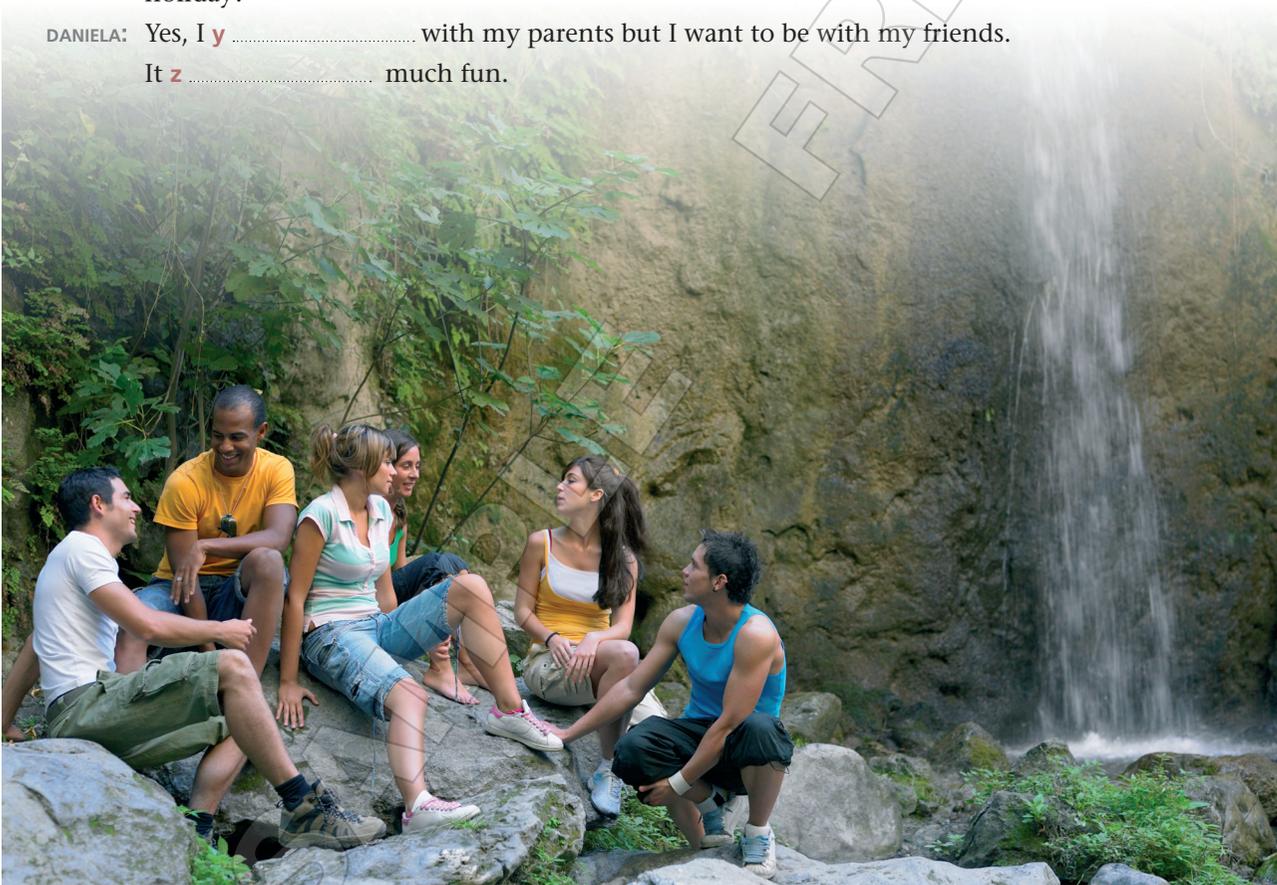
DANIELA: **q** you here on holiday?

ESTEVAN: No, we **r** . It **s** a study trip. This **t** a beautiful place.

DANIELA: Yes, it **u** . **v** the trip fun?

ESTEVAN: Some of it. The museums **w** boring. **x** you here for a holiday?

DANIELA: Yes, I **y** with my parents but I want to be with my friends.
It **z** much fun.



EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Translate these sentences into your own language.

- a My brother is six years old.
- b I am 13 years old.
- c A cup of coffee is €1.
- d Is your father a teacher?
- e We're not interested in computers.

3

there is, there are

FORM

affirmative

There is (There's) a book on the table.

There are three students in the room.

USE

We use *there is / are* to say something exists.

There is a mistake in this exercise.

NOT *A mistake is in the exercise.* or *It's a mistake in the exercise.*

There are 109 elements in the Periodic Table.

NOT *109 elements are in the Periodic Table.* or *They are 109 elements in the Periodic Table.*

After we say that something exists with *there is / are* we can then use *it is* or *they are* to give more details.

There's a computer in the classroom. **It's** very useful.

There's a book on the table. **It's** not mine.

There are nine planets in the solar system. **They're** easy to see with a telescope.

There are some instructions available for this DVD but **they're** on the Internet.

A: **There's** someone on the phone for you.

B: Who is **it**?

A: **It's** your sister, I think.

A: **There are** some people outside the door.

B: Who are **they**?

A: **They're** students.

1 Complete the sentence with *is* or *are*.

- a There are 25 students in the class.
- b There a hospital in the city centre.
- c There a big supermarket near my house.
- d There two teachers in the room.
- e There 12 songs on this CD.
- f There a good film on TV tonight.
- g There his friends.
- h There your mobile phone.
- i There a computer and a TV in my room.
- j There seven books in my bag.
- k There no homework today.

2 Complete the sentence with *there* or *it*.

- a There is a CD on the desk. It is mine.
- b is a nice day today.
- c is a new student in my class.
- d There is a park next to my house. is very beautiful.
- e is three o' clock.
- f is no one in the room.
- g is a man outside the window.
- h There is a big shopping centre in my town. is very popular.
- i is a teacher at my school called Mr Smith.
- j is so hot in this room!
- k is a swimming pool at my school. is also a tennis court.

3 Complete the sentence with *there*, *it* or *they*.

- a There are two bottles of water on the table.
- b are nurses, not doctors.
- c There's a cat in the kitchen. is black and white.
- d There are 30 people at the party. are all my friends.
- e is cold outside. There's snow on the ground.
- f are from London.
- g They're in the hall. is an exam now.
- h is a very interesting book.
- i There is my bag. is next to the desk.
- j My key is in my pocket. is in a safe place!
- k The students are very tired. study too hard.