

# Simple Present – Be

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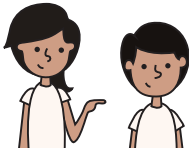
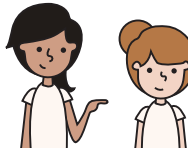

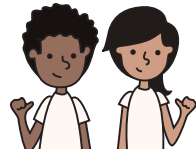
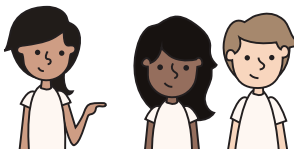


## Grammar Notes

### A. Introduction

We use the Be verb in the simple present tense to show a *state of being*.

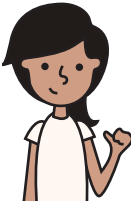

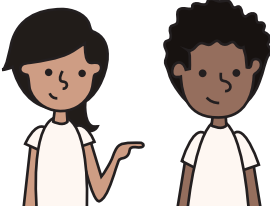
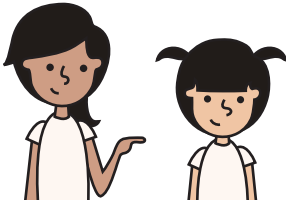
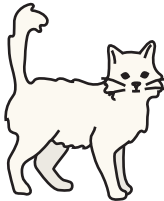
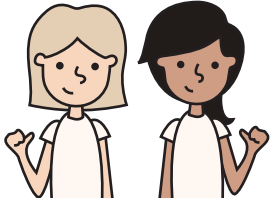
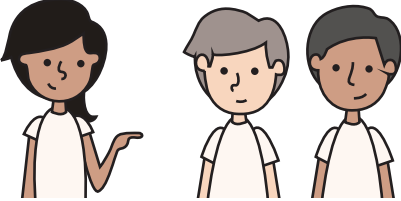
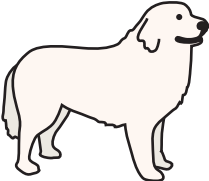

- She **is** a nurse.
- The dogs **are** hungry.

### B. Positive Sentences

Pronouns	 <p><b>I am</b> I am Syrian.</p>		 <p><b>you are</b> You are happy.</p>	
	 <p><b>he is</b> He is 11 years old.</p>		 <p><b>she is</b> She is a student.</p>	
			 <p><b>it is</b> It is furry.</p>	
	 <p><b>we are</b> We are at school.</p>		 <p><b>they are</b> They are shy.</p>	
Nouns	 <p><b>[singular noun] is</b> The dog is big.</p>		 <p><b>[plural noun] are</b> The dogs are friendly.</p>	



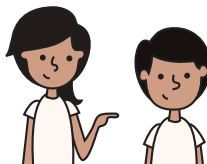
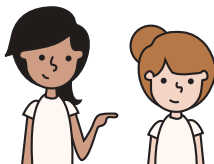

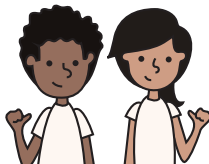
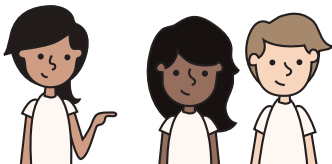
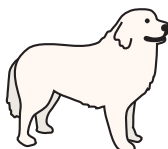
## Grammar Notes cont.

### C. Negative Sentences

Pronouns	 <p><b>I am not / I'm not</b> I'm not from Sweden.</p>		 <p><b>you are not / you aren't</b> You aren't sad.</p>	
	 <p><b>he is not / he isn't</b> He isn't 12 years old.</p>		 <p><b>she is not / she isn't</b> She isn't a teacher.</p>	
			 <p><b>it is not / it isn't</b> It isn't scared.</p>	
	 <p><b>we are not / we aren't</b> We aren't at home.</p>		 <p><b>they are not / they aren't</b> They aren't talkative.</p>	
	 <p><b>the dog is not / the dog isn't</b> The dog isn't small.</p>		 <p><b>the dogs are not / the dogs aren't</b> The dogs aren't scary.</p>	
Nouns				



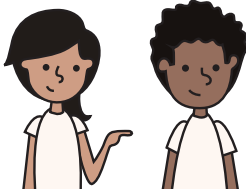
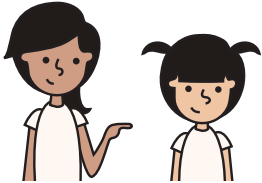
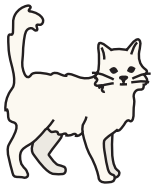
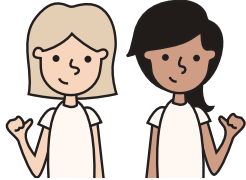
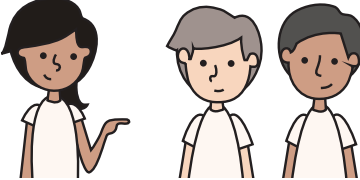
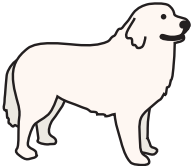
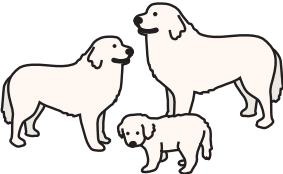
## Grammar Notes cont.

### D. Yes/No Questions & Short Answers

Pronouns	 <p><b>am I...?</b> Am I late? Yes, you are. / No, you aren't.</p>	 <p><b>are you...?</b> Are you happy? Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.</p>	
	 <p><b>is he...?</b> Is he 11 years old? Yes, he is. / No, he isn't.</p>	 <p><b>is she...?</b> Is she a student? Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.</p>	 <p><b>is it...?</b> Is it scared? Yes, it is. / No, it isn't.</p>
	 <p><b>are we...?</b> Are we there yet? Yes, we are. / No, we aren't.</p>	 <p><b>are they...?</b> Are they your classmates? Yes, they are. / No, they aren't.</p>	
	 <p><b>is the dog...?</b> Is the dog in the house? Yes, it is. / No, it isn't.</p>		
Nouns			

## Grammar Notes cont.

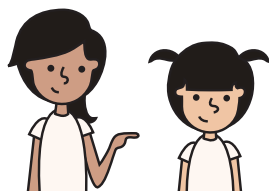
### E. Wh- Questions (what, where, when, who, why, how)

Pronouns	 <p><b>...am I...?</b> Why am I so tired?</p>		 <p><b>...are you...?</b> Where are you?</p>	
	 <p><b>...is he...?</b> How old is he?</p>		 <p><b>...is she...?</b> Who is the teacher?</p>	
			 <p><b>...is it...?</b> Why is it scared?</p>	
	 <p><b>...are we...?</b> Where are we?</p>		 <p><b>...are they...?</b> Who are they?</p>	
	 <p><b>...is the dog...?</b> Where is the dog?</p>		 <p><b>...are the dogs...?</b> How many dogs are there?</p>	
Nouns				

## Exercise 1

### POSITIVE SENTENCES

Write a pronoun and correct form of the Be verb under each picture.

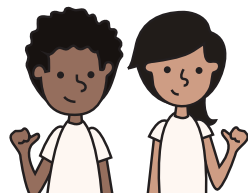


Ex.

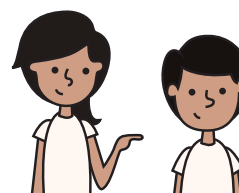
*she is*



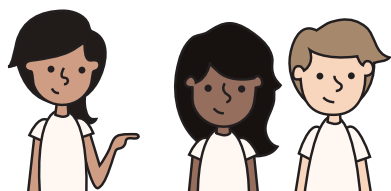
1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

## Exercise 2

### FILL IN THE BLANKS

Complete the sentences using the Be verb.

Ex. She is 16 years old.

1. New York \_\_\_\_\_ a big city.

2. She \_\_\_\_\_ friendly.

3. He \_\_\_\_\_ five years old.

4. Sweden and France \_\_\_\_\_ countries in Europe.

5. Her hair \_\_\_\_\_ long.

6. It \_\_\_\_\_ very cold today.

7. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ furry.

8. The dog \_\_\_\_\_ hungry.

9. They \_\_\_\_\_ friendly.

10. An elephant \_\_\_\_\_ a big animal.

11. Mice \_\_\_\_\_ small.

12. Apples \_\_\_\_\_ red.

13. You \_\_\_\_\_ talkative.

14. Ice cream \_\_\_\_\_ sweet.

15. The bus \_\_\_\_\_ late.

16. He \_\_\_\_\_ 25 years old.

17. I \_\_\_\_\_ tired.

18. Mr. and Mrs. Baker \_\_\_\_\_ teachers.

19. We \_\_\_\_\_ sleepy today.

20. You \_\_\_\_\_ intelligent.

## Exercise 3

### COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

Complete the following sentences using the Be verb and a noun from the box. Use *a* or *an* with a singular noun or use the correct plural form.

Ex. The Mona Lisa is a painting .

1. A cat \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Roses \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. A Toyota \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. New York and Paris \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. Sweden \_\_\_\_\_ .
6. A dictionary \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Spring and fall \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. A teacher \_\_\_\_\_ .
9. A doll \_\_\_\_\_ .
10. Spiders and flies \_\_\_\_\_ .
11. A crow \_\_\_\_\_ .
12. Shirts and pants \_\_\_\_\_ .
13. *Toy Story* \_\_\_\_\_ .
14. A piano and a guitar \_\_\_\_\_ .
15. Carrots and cucumbers \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Noun List:**

- flower
- toy
- ~~painting~~
- season
- clothes
- bird
- animal
- car
- city
- person
- insect
- country
- book
- movie
- vegetable
- instrument

## Exercise 4

### POSITIVE & NEGATIVE SENTENCES

Write the correct positive and negative forms of the Be verb.

Ex. Carrots are vegetables. They aren't fruit.

1. Tokyo \_\_\_\_\_ a city. It \_\_\_\_\_ a country.
2. A feather \_\_\_\_\_ heavy. It \_\_\_\_\_ light.
3. Winters \_\_\_\_\_ cold in Canada. They \_\_\_\_\_ hot.
4. Ice cream \_\_\_\_\_ sweet. It \_\_\_\_\_ sour.
5. Giraffes \_\_\_\_\_ tall animals. They \_\_\_\_\_ short.
6. Hockey \_\_\_\_\_ a fast game. It \_\_\_\_\_ slow.
7. Elephants \_\_\_\_\_ light. They \_\_\_\_\_ heavy animals.
8. Lemons \_\_\_\_\_ sweet. They \_\_\_\_\_ sour.
9. Children \_\_\_\_\_ young. They \_\_\_\_\_ old.
10. Parties \_\_\_\_\_ usually noisy. They \_\_\_\_\_ usually quiet.
11. A library \_\_\_\_\_ usually noisy. It \_\_\_\_\_ usually quiet.
12. The US \_\_\_\_\_ a country. It \_\_\_\_\_ a city.
13. The sun \_\_\_\_\_ cold . It \_\_\_\_\_ hot.
14. A carrot \_\_\_\_\_ orange. It \_\_\_\_\_ blue.
15. Five star hotels \_\_\_\_\_ cheap. They \_\_\_\_\_ expensive.

## Exercise 5

### SHORT ANSWERS

Write a short answer for each Yes/No question using the Be verb.

Ex. Are you a doctor? **(no)**

*No, I'm not.*

Ex. Are you a nurse? **(yes)**

*Yes, I am.*

1. Are you sick? **(no)**

2. Are they married? **(yes)**

3. Is that TV expensive? **(yes)**

4. Is that exercise difficult? **(no)**

5. Are you tired? **(no)**

6. Is she a basketball player? **(yes)**

7. Are your neighbors rich? **(no)**

8. Is your teacher nice? **(yes)**

9. Is he from Spain? **(no)**

10. Are you happy? **(yes)**

## Exercise 6

### WH- QUESTIONS

Write a question using the Be verb and *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, or *why*.

Ex. *Where is the teacher?*

The teacher is **in the classroom**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Tokyo is **in Japan**.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Mr. Anderson** is my teacher.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

It is **3:00**.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

The doctor's office is **near the hospital**.

5. \_\_\_\_\_

The children are in bed **because they are sick**.

6. \_\_\_\_\_

It is cold **in January**.

7. \_\_\_\_\_

Maria is **John's girlfriend**.

8. \_\_\_\_\_

The meeting is **next Monday**.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

I am tired **because I stayed up late**.

10. \_\_\_\_\_

That beautiful woman is **my mother**.

## Exercise 7

### SPEAKING ACTIVITY

#### Dialogue 1

Read the dialogue with your partner. Then switch roles and read it again.

**Juan:** Hi, I'm Juan.

**Marie:** It's nice to meet you, Juan. I'm Marie.

**Juan:** Hi, Marie. Where are you from?

**Marie:** I'm from France. How about you?

**Juan:** I'm from Mexico.

**Marie:** What do you do in Mexico?

**Juan:** I'm a photographer. What do you do, Marie?

**Marie:** I'm a realtor. I sell houses.

**Juan:** Well, it was nice to meet you, Marie.

**Marie:** You too, Juan. See you later.

#### Do you know?

It is common to use the Be verb for **introductions**.  
Use the Be verb to tell or ask someone about:

- names
- countries
- jobs

Note that in many countries, it is not polite to ask someone's age.

#### Dialogue 2

Work with a partner and fill in the dialogue with your own information.  
Then read it out loud.

**A:** Hi, I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

**B:** It's nice to meet you, \_\_\_\_\_. I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

**A:** Hi, \_\_\_\_\_. Where \_\_\_\_\_ you from?

**B:** \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_. How about you?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.

**B:** What do you do in \_\_\_\_\_?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_. What do you do, \_\_\_\_\_?

**B:** \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_.

**A:** Well, it was nice to meet you, \_\_\_\_\_.

**B:** You too, \_\_\_\_\_. See you later.