



GRAMMAR

THE PRESENT SIMPLE: TO BE

The verb **To be** is the most important verb in English. It is difficult to use it because it is an irregular verb in almost all of its forms. In the present simple tense, *To be* is conjugated as follows:

Affirmative forms of the verb To be

Subject Pronouns	Full Form	Contracted Form
I	am	'm
you	are	're
he/she/it	is	's
we	are	're
you	are	're
they	are	're

Interrogative forms of the verb To be

Am	I?
Are	you?
Is	he/she/it?

Are	we?
Are	you?
Are	they?

Negative Forms of the verb *To be*

Subject Pronouns	Full Form	Contracted Form
I	am not	'm not
you	are not	aren't
he/she/it	is not	isn't
we	are not	aren't
you	are not	aren't
they	are not	aren't

Examples

- **Is** your brother French?
- No, he **isn't**. He **is** American.
- What about your sister? **Is** she American, too?
- Yes, she **is**. She **is** American.
- **Are** they French?
- No, They **aren't**. They **are** American.

Remember!

- **I, you, he, she, it, you, they** are subject or personal pronouns
- **am, are, is** are forms of the verb ***To be*** in the present simple
- **'m, 're, 's** are short (contracted) forms of am, are, is
- **'m not, aren't, isn't** are short (contracted forms) of am not, are not, is not

WORKSHEET

1. Fill in the blanks with the right subject pronouns (I, you, he, she, it, we, they):

- Angelina Joli is American. isn't French.
- Brad Pitt is American, too. isn't German.
- Brad and Angelina aren't French. are American.
- My friend and I are university students. aren't secondary school students.
- The Statue of Liberty is in New York. isn't in Washington.

2. Fill in the blanks with the right form of *To be* (am, are or is):

- you the new student?
Yes, I
- Leila and Nancy students.
- Nancy Australian.
- My sister and I students.
- The girls tired.
- These women Beautiful.
- The tea Delicious.
- Nadie and Leila friends.
- The newspaper cheap.

3. Fill in the blanks with the negative or affirmative form of *To be*:

- Is Julia Robert French? No, she French.
- What about Robert de Niro? Is he an American actor? Yes, he
- Are New York and Los Angeles Spanish Cities? No, they Spanish cities.
- Is Big Ben in Paris? No, it in Paris.
- Is Mount Everest in Africa? No, it in Africa. It is in Asia.