

WITH ANSWERS

Oxford  
*Living*  
GRAMMAR  
elementary



Learn and practise grammar in context



Ken Paterson

# 01

## Be: Present simple I am; I'm not

- 1 Some examples of **be** in the present simple.  
*This is my brother. He's ten years old.*  
*I'm eighteen and a student; these are my books.*  
*My parents aren't at home; they're at work.*

- 2 Here are the present simple forms of **be**:

POSITIVE	Full form	Short form
Singular	I am	I'm
	you are	you're
	he/she/it is	he/she/it's
Plural	we are	we're
	you are	you're
	they are	they're
NEGATIVE	Full form	Short form
Singular	I am not	I'm not
	you are not	you're not or you aren't
	he/she/it is not	he/she/it's not or he/she/it isn't
Plural	we are not	we're not or we aren't
	you are not	you're not or you aren't
	they are not	they're not or they aren't

We usually use the short forms in speech.  
*She's my sister. He's my brother.*  
*I'm from Germany. They're students.*

TIP

→ For information on question forms, see p. 4.

- 3 We use **be** to talk about the family, jobs, saying who we are, talking about the weather or a location and talking about age.

### Grammar in action

- 1 We use **be** when we introduce ourselves and our families:  
*These are my sisters and this is my brother.*  
*I'm Steve; this is my partner, Ruth.*  
*She's 30 years old but I'm younger.*



- 2 We use **be** when we talk about our jobs:  
*I am a doctor and they are nurses.*

- 3 We use **be** when we say where we're from:  
*I'm from Brazil; my aunt is Portuguese.*  
*I'm not from England. I'm from Wales.*

- 4 We use **be** when we talk about the weather:  
*It's a beautiful day but it's cold.*  
*It's not very warm today and it's very windy.*



- 5 We use **be** when we talk about location:  
*Milan is in the north but it isn't near Venice.*

We also use **be** to form continuous tenses.  
 → For more information on the present continuous, see p. 10.

TIP

## A Introductions

(i) Add the correct forms of **be**. Use the short form where possible.

I 'm <sup>0</sup> 20 and I <sup>1</sup> a student. My father <sup>2</sup> from Brazil. My mother <sup>3</sup> (not) from Brazil. She <sup>4</sup> Irish. Her parents <sup>5</sup> from Dublin. Paul and Simon <sup>6</sup> my brothers. They <sup>7</sup> both teachers. Simon <sup>8</sup> 23 and Paul <sup>9</sup> 25, so I <sup>10</sup> (not) the oldest.

(ii) Which use of **be** in (i) matches these contexts? Choose one example.

- 0 Age I'm 20.  
 1 Job .....  
 2 Nationality .....  
 3 Family .....

## B Home, nationality and jobs

We're meeting people at a party. What are they saying? Add the correct forms of *be*. Use the short form where possible.



Paola and Federico are<sup>0</sup> from Naples. Naples is<sup>1</sup> in the south of Italy. Paola is<sup>2</sup> a photographer and Federico is<sup>3</sup> a dentist.

We are<sup>4</sup> artists.  
We are<sup>5</sup> English.  
We are<sup>6</sup> from London.

I am<sup>7</sup> a teacher.  
This is my husband, Tom.  
We are<sup>8</sup> from Scotland.

## C The weather and location

It's the first day of a new class. Four students are talking about their countries. Add the correct forms of *be* or one of the words in the box. Use the pictures to help you.

sunny sea near south north cold

KUMIKO Hello. I'm Kumiko. I'm from Tomakomai. It is<sup>0</sup> in the north<sup>0</sup> of Japan.

It is<sup>0</sup> cold in the winter, and it is<sup>1</sup> hot in the summer. Tomakomai is<sup>2</sup> a small town near<sup>3</sup> Sapporo.

GALINA Hi, I'm Galina. I'm from St. Petersburg. It is<sup>4</sup> in the west of Russia. It is<sup>5</sup> (not) very hot! In fact, it's very cold<sup>6</sup> in the winter. But sometimes it is<sup>7</sup> sunny! St. Petersburg is<sup>8</sup> (not) the capital of Russia, of course, but it's a very big city.

ABBAS I'm Abbas, and this is my cousin, Sulama. We're from Oman. It is<sup>9</sup> a hot country and it's very sunny<sup>10</sup>.

SULAMA We're from two small towns in the south<sup>11</sup>, Salalah and Mirbat. They are<sup>12</sup> by the sea<sup>13</sup>. They are<sup>14</sup> (not) near Muscat, the capital city. Muscat is<sup>15</sup> a thousand kilometres away.



# 01

## Be: Present simple Are you hungry?; What time is it?

4 To make questions with **be**, we put the verb before the subject:

### QUESTIONS

Singular	Am I?	Plural	Are we?
	Are you?		Are you?
	Is he/she/it?		Are they?

5 These questions can be answered with **yes** or **no**:  
*Are you here on holiday? ~ Yes, I am.*  
*Is your son a student? ~ No, he's not.*

The answers are short: **Yes, I am.**

NOT *Yes, I am on holiday.*

→ For more information on **yes/no questions** and **short answers** see unit 12.

6 We can use question words to make questions with **be**, too:

*What's your job?*

*Where are your friends?*

*How old is your brother?*

→ For more information on **question words**, see unit 12.

### Grammar in action

6 We use **be + adjective** to describe how we feel. We might talk about a journey:

*Are you unhappy? ~ No, but I'm cold and tired. ~ I'm sorry. It's a long journey.*



7 We use **be + noun** and **be + adjective** to describe things. Here, we're describing a house in our village:

*It's a lovely old house and the garden's very large, but it's so expensive!*



We can use **there + be** to talk about where things are or when things happen.

→ For more information, see p. 82.

**TIP**

## D Asking and answering questions

Ming is a student from Shanghai. This is her first day in London. People ask her questions at the airport and at her new college. First put the words in the right order to make the questions on the left of the page.

- 0 *Is this your suitcase?* (your suitcase/this/is) ..... *Yes, it is.*
- 1 ..... (a student/you/are) .....
- 2 ..... ('s/your name/what) .....
- 3 ..... (you/are/how old) .....
- 4 ..... (are/from Hong Kong/you) .....
- 5 ..... (your ID card, please/is/where) .....
- 6 ..... (what/your address in the UK/'s) .....

Now write these answers in the correct spaces next to the questions above:

Here it is. I'm 22. Yes, I am. ~~Yes, it is.~~ No, I'm from Shanghai.  
It's The Hyde Park Hotel, Queensway, London W2 3BJ. It's Ming Yifeng.

Finally, use a form of **be** to make the questions that Ming asks at her college and hotel.

- 0 ..... *Is this my new timetable?* (this my new timetable)
- 0 What time ..... *is our first class?* (our first class)
- 7 ..... (this your first day here, too)

- 8 Where ..... (you from)  
 9 ..... (I in the correct classroom)  
 10 ..... (this the bus to Queensway)  
 11 Where ..... (the Hyde Park Hotel, please)  
 12 What time ..... (breakfast tomorrow morning)

## E A holiday conversation

Sally is on holiday in Greece. She meets Liga in a café. Add the word(s) in brackets and a form of *be* to their conversation. Use capital letters where necessary.

- SALLY Hi, .....<sup>0</sup> (I) Sally.  
 LIGA Pleased to meet you. I'm Liga. ....<sup>1</sup> (you) here on holiday?  
 SALLY Yes. ....<sup>2</sup> (it) a beautiful town, and it's so sunny here! But .....<sup>3</sup> (I) sad because it's my last day.  
 LIGA Oh, I'm sorry. Where .....<sup>4</sup> (you) from, Sally?  
 SALLY Athenry. ....<sup>5</sup> (it) a nice little town in Ireland, but .....<sup>6</sup> (it/not) very sunny. And you?  
 LIGA I'm from Riga. It's the capital of Latvia. I'm here with my boyfriend, and .....<sup>7</sup> (this) our first day, so .....<sup>8</sup> (we) happy!  
 SALLY .....<sup>9</sup> (you) lucky!  
 WAITER Good morning, ladies. Would you like something to eat?  
 SALLY .....<sup>10</sup> (I/not) hungry, thanks, but I'd like an orange juice, please.  
 LIGA .....<sup>11</sup> (I) thirsty, too. A lemonade, please.  
 SALLY Well, .....<sup>12</sup> (it) good to meet you, Liga, if only for a day!

## F At a bus stop

Katie and Asif meet Dieter at a bus stop. After the example, add twenty more positive and two more negative forms of *be*. Use capital letters where necessary.

- ASIF Look at the time. It's two in the morning. Where we?  
 KATIE On Burley Street, I think. you hungry, Asif?  
 ASIF No, I hungry, but I tired. Where the bus stop?  
 KATIE Look, it there! Come on!  
 (At the bus stop they meet Dieter.)  
 ASIF Excuse me. this the bus stop for Rayne's Park?  
 DIETER Yes, I hope so. It a cold night.  
 KATIE Hi. I Katie and this my friend Asif.  
 DIETER Pleased to meet you. I Dieter. you students?  
 KATIE No, we students. We doctors. And you?  
 DIETER I a waiter at the Hamburger restaurant on Park Street.  
 ASIF Where you from? you German?  
 DIETER No, I Austrian, but I in Leicester for six months. It an interesting city.  
 KATIE Look, the bus here! I hope it warm inside. After you, Dieter.  
 Come on, Asif.



**OVER TO YOU** Now go to page 122.

# 02 Present simple

*I work; he studies*

**1** Some examples of the **present simple**:  
*I **come** from France, but I **speak** English.*  
*She usually **phones** me at the weekend.*  
*We **live** in the centre of Beijing.*

**2** The positive form of the **present simple** only changes after *he/she/it*:

### POSITIVE

Singular	Plural
I <b>stop</b>	we <b>stop</b>
you <b>stop</b>	you <b>stop</b>
he/she/it <b>stops</b>	they <b>stop</b>

**3** The changes after **he/she/it**:

For most verbs, we add **-s**:

I eat → she eats      they pay → he pays

But for verbs ending in **-o**, **-ch**, **-sh**, **-ss** and **-x**, we add **e** before **-s**:

I go → it goes      I wash → she washes  
 you fix → she fixes      they miss → he misses  
 we watch → he watches

And for verbs ending in a consonant (b, c, d, etc.) + **y**, we change the **y** to **ie**, and then add **-s**:

I carry → he carries      you study → she studies

For the verb **have**, we say 'he/she/it **has**...':

These spelling rules work for nouns too:

potato → potatoes      match → matches  
 box → boxes      baby → babies

**TIP**

**4** We use the **present simple** to talk about ourselves, where we live, and where we work, to talk about our hobbies and timetables, to talk about things we don't like and to talk about things we don't know.

→ For information on **present simple negative**, see p. 8.

## Grammar in action

**1** We use the **present simple** to talk about facts. Here, we're talking about where we live, and where we work:

*My parents **live** in Scotland.*  
*My mum **comes** from Australia.*  
*My dad **works** for an American company.*



**2** We use the **present simple** to talk about our hobbies, timetables, and things we do regularly:

*I **sometimes** play football on Sunday mornings.*  
*They **never** go on holiday.*  
*Megan **comes** to a French class with me on Mondays.*



We often put a frequency adverb (*usually, sometimes, never, etc.*) before the verb, or we give a time, day or period (*at 9.30, in the morning, on Tuesdays, at the weekend, in the summer, etc.*) after the verb.

**TIP**

→ For information on **frequency adverbs**, see p. 16.

## A Talking about where we live and where we work

Joe and his friends share a big house in London. Jean-Paul is going to stay with them. Add the correct form of the verbs in brackets to this letter.

Hi Jean-Paul!

Here's some information about our house. Sally and I **live** <sup>0</sup> (live) on the first floor. Sally **works** <sup>0</sup> (work) for a travel company and I **drive** <sup>1</sup> (drive) a taxi. Paul **has** <sup>2</sup> (have) a room on our floor, too. He **fixes** <sup>3</sup> (fix) cars. Mario **lives** <sup>4</sup> (live) on the second floor with his wife, Lucia. They **come** <sup>5</sup> (come) from Italy. Lucia **speaks** <sup>6</sup> (speak) a little French, I think. They both **make** <sup>7</sup> (make) great pasta! Finally, Greg **sleeps** <sup>8</sup> (sleep) on the top floor. He **teaches** <sup>9</sup> (teach) maths in a local school.

See you soon!

Joe

## B Things we do regularly

(i) Here is an interview with Anisha Chetty, the managing director of the supermarket company, Bisco's. Add the correct verb, changing the form if necessary.

INTERVIEWER When do you start your day?

ANISHA My husband sleeps<sup>0</sup> (sleep/stay) until 8 a.m., but I always get<sup>0</sup> (start/get) up at 6.30 a.m. I usually .....<sup>1</sup> (leave/go) to the gym first. Then I .....<sup>2</sup> (have/sit) breakfast at the London office at 7.30 a.m. I .....<sup>3</sup> (start/stop) work at 8 a.m.

INTERVIEWER Wow! That's early. Are you the first person to arrive at the office?

ANISHA No, actually. My Personal Assistant, Philip, .....<sup>4</sup> (get/arrive) at 7.45 a.m., but he .....<sup>5</sup> (finish/lose) work at 3 p.m. to pick up his children from school.

INTERVIEWER Do you have meetings all day long?

ANISHA No, not all day. On Wednesdays I .....<sup>6</sup> (fly/catch) to Glasgow to visit the Scottish manager, Derek. He .....<sup>7</sup> (give/make) me information every week on the eleven Bisco supermarkets in Scotland.

INTERVIEWER Do you have any time to relax?

ANISHA Sure. You have to relax. I .....<sup>8</sup> (make/do) yoga on Tuesday afternoons. And I .....<sup>9</sup> (try/come) to get home early on Friday afternoons.

(ii) Check your answers to (i), and then add the verb in the correct form to these sentences about Anisha.

- 0 She always gets up at 6.30 a.m.
- 1 She usually ..... to the gym first.
- 2 Then she ..... breakfast at the London office.
- 3 She ..... work at 8 a.m.
- 4 On Wednesdays she ..... to Glasgow.
- 5 She ..... yoga on Tuesday afternoons.
- 6 And she ..... to get home early on Friday afternoons.

## C Facts and regular activities

Gill is showing a family photo to her friend. Cross out the wrong verb forms in the sentences in the first half (1-4), and add them to the sentences in the second half (5-8).

- 0 My mother ~~make/makes~~ TV programmes.
- 1 My father ~~work/works~~ in a travel agency.
- 2 My parents ~~spends/spend~~ two months every year in California.
- 3 My grandfather ~~speaks/speak~~ five languages.
- 4 He ~~plays/play~~ jazz piano at the weekends.
- 5 My brothers ..... for a South American bank.
- 6 They both ..... Spanish as well as English.
- 0 They make a lot of money.
- 7 My older brother, Matt, ..... all his money on cars.
- 8 They both ..... tennis together on Sundays.



# 02

## Present simple

### We don't know; he doesn't remember

#### 5 Some examples of the present simple negative:

*I don't like music in shops.  
She doesn't eat meat.  
We do not know the answer.  
This train does not stop at York.*

#### 6 We make the negative form by using do not/don't or does not/doesn't before the infinitive:

NEGATIVE		
	Full form	Short form
<b>Singular</b>	I do not stop	I don't stop
	you do not stop	you don't stop
	he/she/it does not stop	he/she/it doesn't stop
<b>Plural</b>	we do not stop	we don't stop
	you do not stop	you don't stop
	they do not stop	they don't stop

- Note that we don't add -s after he/she/it in the negative form: *He doesn't stops.*
- In speech and informal writing, we usually use short forms.

**TIP**

#### Grammar in action

#### 3 We use the present simple to talk about things we like or don't like:

*I love sunny days!  
I like most classical music.  
Mike doesn't like golf.  
We want an ice cream!  
My dad hates motorbikes.  
I don't want another book for my birthday!*



#### 4 We use the present simple to talk about things we know or don't know and think or don't think:

*I don't know her name. Do you?  
Jeremy knows the way to the hotel.  
I'm sorry, but I don't understand.  
I think it's time to go home.  
Jo doesn't think this restaurant is very good.  
I understand a few words in French.*



→ For information on present simple questions, see p. 18.

## D Sightseeing in Edinburgh

Bob and Jess and their kids, Sam and Mel, are visiting Edinburgh. Add the correct verb in the correct form.

- BOB I don't know<sup>0</sup> (not think/not know) where we are, Jess. Mel thinks<sup>0</sup> (think/want) we're on Princes Street - the street with all the shops - but I'm not sure.
- SAM I .....<sup>1</sup> (hate/love) shops! They're boring. I want to go to the zoo.
- JESS I .....<sup>2</sup> (not think/not understand) the zoo is in the city centre, Sam. And Mel .....<sup>3</sup> (not hate/not like) zoos anyway.
- BOB Listen. I'm going to ask this man where we are. Excuse me, sir, what is the name of this street?
- JESS Bob! He .....<sup>4</sup> (not understand/not think) you. I don't think he's British.
- BOB OK. Sorry, sir. Look, Jess. What's that?
- JESS I .....<sup>5</sup> (not know/not understand), Bob.
- MEL But I .....<sup>6</sup> (think/know) what it is! It's the Scott Monument. I read about it at school.
- BOB Thanks, Mel. This is Princes Street, then. So now I know the way to the Tourist Information Office.
- JESS Great! We can ask for directions to the National Gallery of Scotland. I .....<sup>7</sup> (love/hate) paintings!
- SAM Well, I .....<sup>8</sup> (not hate/not like) paintings. They're boring. I'm thirsty. I .....<sup>9</sup> (want/love) a drink.
- JESS We can have a drink at the café in the National Gallery, Sam. We may see some paintings of lions or tigers there. That will be nice, won't it?