



Present Simple With the Verb “To Be” - Explanation

Grammar Explanation

In the Present Simple, the verb “be” has three main forms:

- **am** (used with the subject “I”)
- **is** (used with singular third-person subjects: “he,” “she,” “it,”)
- **are** (used with “you,” “we,” “they,” or plural nouns)

Examples:

- I **am** a teacher.
- He **is** tall.
- They **are** friends.

When to Use the Present Simple of “Be”

1. **Facts and General Truths:** “She **is** a doctor.”
2. **Descriptions:** “They **are** very polite.”
3. **States or Conditions:** “I **am** tired today.”
4. **Identity and Nationality:** “We **are** from Spain.”

Practice Exercises

Fill in the blanks with **am**, **is**, or **are**.

1. I _____ very happy today.
2. She _____ my best friend.
3. You _____ always so kind.
4. He _____ from Australia.
5. They _____ at the library right now.

Answer Key

1. I **am** very happy today.
2. She **is** my best friend.
3. You **are** always so kind.
4. He **is** from Australia.
5. They **are** at the library right now.

Negative Sentences with the Verb “Be” (Present Simple)

How to Form a Negative Statement

Subject + **am/is/are** + **not** + the rest of the sentence.

Examples:

- I **am not** tired.
- She **is not** (isn't) at home.
- They **are not** (aren't) busy.

You can also use contractions (short forms) for the negative:

- **am not** → no contraction with “am” (it stays “am not”)
- **is not** → **isn't**
- **are not** → **aren't**

Negative Sentences: Practice Exercises

Use **am not**, **is not** (isn't), or **are not** (aren't) to complete the sentences.

1. I _____ ready for the test.
2. She _____ my neighbor anymore.
3. They _____ interested in the movie.
4. He _____ a big fan of pop music.
5. We _____ late to the party.

Negative Sentences: Answer Key

1. I **am not** ready for the test.
2. She **is not** (isn't) my neighbor anymore.
3. They **are not** (aren't) interested in the movie.
4. He **is not** (isn't) a big fan of pop music.
5. We **are not** (aren't) late to the party.

Questions & Short Answers with the Verb “Be”

How to Form Questions

Place **am/is/are** before the subject + the rest of the sentence.

Examples:

- **Am** I on time?
- **Is** she hungry?
- **Are** they at home?

Short Answers

To give a short answer, repeat **am/is/are** + the subject (if needed), often in a contracted or full form.

- **Am I on time?** – Yes, you are. / No, you aren't.
- **Is she hungry?** – Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.

Questions & Short Answers: Practice Exercises

Form questions using **am/is/are** and give a short answer in parentheses (Yes/No).

Example:

You / happy? (Yes) → **Question:** Are you happy? **Answer:** Yes, I am.

1. She / in the garden? (No)

Question: _____ Answer: _____

2. They / from Canada? (Yes)

Question: _____ Answer: _____

3. You / ready to go? (No)

Question: _____ Answer: _____

4. He / a doctor? (Yes)

Question: _____ Answer: _____

5. We / too late? (No)

Question: _____ Answer: _____

Questions & Short Answers: Answer Key

1. **Is she in the garden? – No, she isn't.**
2. **Are they from Canada? – Yes, they are.**
3. **Are you ready to go? – No, I'm not.**
4. **Is he a doctor? – Yes, he is.**
5. **Are we too late? – No, we aren't.**