

## Lesson 1 – Hello /Student Materials

### Verb 'to be' – EXPLAINED!

We will learn how to use the verb 'to be' when we want to describe someone or something ,for example: to say the time, to say how old we are, to say how we feel.

### TO BE / Am – Is – Are

The forms of 'to be' in the **present simple** tense

Long form	Short form	Example
<b>I am</b>	<b>I'm</b>	I am 25 twenty-five years old.
<b>You are</b>	<b>You're</b>	You are beautiful.
<b>He is</b>	<b>He's</b>	He is tall.
<b>She is</b>	<b>She's</b>	She is slim.
<b>It is</b>	<b>It's</b>	It is three o'clock.
<b>We are</b>	<b>We're</b>	We are late for work.
<b>You are</b>	<b>You're</b>	You are all happy.
<b>They are</b>	<b>They're</b>	They are Italian.

Negative	Negative short form	Question
I <b>am not</b> 25 years old.	I'm <b>not</b> 25 years old.	<b>Am I</b> 25 years old?
You <b>are not</b> beautiful.	You <b>aren't</b> beautiful.	<b>Are you</b> beautiful?
He <b>is not</b> tall.	He <b>isn't</b> tall.	<b>Is he</b> tall?
She <b>is not</b> slim.	She <b>isn't</b> slim.	<b>Is she</b> slim?
It <b>is not</b> 3 o'clock.	It <b>isn't</b> 3 o'clock.	<b>Is it</b> 3 o'clock?
We <b>are not</b> late for work.	We <b>aren't</b> late for work.	<b>Are we</b> late for work?
You <b>are not</b> all happy.	You <b>aren't</b> all happy.	<b>Are you</b> all happy?
They <b>are not</b> Italian.	They <b>aren't</b> Italian.	<b>Are they</b> Italian?

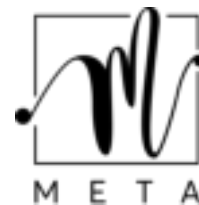
We use the **present simple** when:

**A. we speak about nationality:**

- *My best friend is English.*

**B. we speak about how we feel:**

- *Mary and Kate are happy today.*



**C. we describe something, someone or an animal.**

- The *book is blue*. (thing)
- *Tom is tall*. (person)
- *My cat is grey and white*. (animal)

**D. we speak about the weather:**

- A: It's *a hot day*!
- B: Yes, *the sun is warm*.

**E. we speak about the time:**

- A: What *time is it*, please?
- B: It *is three o'clock*.

**F. we speak about age:**

- Mary: How *old is James*?
- Anne: He *is fourteen years old*.
  
- Carl: How *old is this house*?
- Dan: It's *forty-five years old*.

**G. we speak about places:**

- *Paris is* in France.
- *We are* in classroom with our teacher.

**Note:** The verb 'to be' is an irregular verb - what does an irregular verb mean?

It means that it changes its form, for example: 'to **be**' changes its form: I **am**, you **are**, he/she/it **is**, we/you/they **are**.

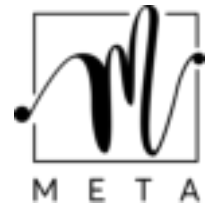
The verb 'to be' is also an auxiliary verb, it is a helping verb and it is used to make sentences, questions and negative sentences, for example: I am happy, Are you happy? I'm not happy.

"to be" is a very special verb and you will see it in front of some other verbs like modal verbs, in passive voice, in present continuous, for example: It **is** allowed to stand up in class.

We use the 'contracted form' usually in conversations and we usually use the 'full form' when writing a formal email, letter or an official important document.

**Remember!** Present simple is usually used when something is true, and there are hardly any changes in time. Let me give you some more examples:

- I am Christina – *always true*
- London is in England. – *always true*
- Apples are fruit. – *always true*



### Exercise 1 – full form - verb 'be'

Eg: I **am** a student.

My sister **is not** a teacher. (not)

1. I ..... Italian. (be)
2. She ..... happy. (be)
3. They ..... at home. (not)
4. It ..... a cold day, today. (not)
5. We ..... from France. (be)

### Exercise 2 – contract form -verb 'be'

Eg: I'**m** a student.

My sister **isn't** a teacher.

1. He ..... 18 years old. (not)
2. It ..... four o'clock. (be)
3. You ..... twenty-two years old. (not)
4. We ..... doctors. (be)
5. This ..... Bill. He ..... English. (be – be )

### Exercise 3 – Put the words in the right order.

Eg: a / book / It's.

It's a book.

1. you / Japanese? / are
2. o'clock / It's / three.
3. we / happy / aren't.
4. in London? / Tom and Peter / Are
5. is / Tom / twenty years old.