

Unit ★ 1

Be: Simple Present

I am Zoe

I **am** Zoe.

My sister's name **is** Sue.

We **are** 12-year-old twins.

Jim **is** my brother.

He **is** 14 years old.

Mr. White **is** my father.

He **is** a writer.

Mrs. White **is** my mother.

She **is** a teacher.

Our house **is** on a quiet street.

There **is** a beautiful garden in front of the house.

There **are** many flowers in the garden.

Grandma **is** in the garden every day.



: Grammar for Writing

1 Be: Simple Present—basic

- My father **is a writer**. (*be* + noun)
- My father **is busy**. (*be*+adjective)
- My father **is in the room**. (*be* + prepositional phrase)

- ⇒ <*Be*: simple present> is the most basic verb type in English sentences.
- ⇒ After **be**, you can use a noun/ pronoun, an adjective, or a prepositional phrase.

2 Noun/ Pronoun subject + *be*

- **Mrs. White is** my mother. **She is** a teacher.
- **Flowers are** in the garden. **They are** beautiful.

- ⇒ Both nouns and pronouns can be subjects in a sentence.

3 *Be*: Negative & Yes/No Questions

- He **is not** an artist.
- **Is he** a writer? Yes, he is.
- They **are not** tulips.
- **Are they** roses? Yes, they are.

- ⇒ Negative:
<Subject + *be* + not>
- ⇒ Questions:
<*Be* + subject>

4 There is/are

- **There is** a nice picture **on the wall**.
- **There are** many people **in the room**.
- **There is not** a key **on the table**.

- ⇒ We use **there is / are** to say that something exists in a certain place.
- ⇒ **There is / are** is usually used with prepositional phrases: **in the room, on the table**.



Tips for Better Sentences

Connecting words with *and*

- She is **nice**. She is **friendly**.
→ She is **nice and friendly**.
- ⇒ We can join two adjectives after the verb *be* using *and*. This makes two short, choppy sentences into one longer, better sentence.

Modifying nouns with adjectives

- He is a **teacher**.
→ He is **a great teacher**.
- There is a **tree** in the garden.
→ There is **a tall tree** in the garden.
- ⇒ We can modify a noun with an adjective and make a sentence more interesting.



Common Mistakes

Subject - verb agreement

- John and Mary **is** nice people. (x) → John and Mary **are** nice people. (✓)
- Bill and I **am** school friends. (x) → Bill and I () school friends.
- There **is** many trees in the park. (x) → There () many trees in the park.
- The toys in the box **is** my brother's. (x) → The toys in the box () my brother's.

Short forms

- **His** not a student. (x) → **He's** not a student. (✓)
- **Its** a pen. (x) **Its'** a pen. (x) → () a pen.

Sentence structure

- **It is** a puppy on the mat. (x) → There is a puppy on the mat. (✓)
- **They are** puppies on the mat. (x) → () puppies on the mat.

: Writing Basic Sentences

1 Look at the pictures. Then write sentences about each person by answering these questions: "Where are they?" and "Are they happy?"

- in the garden
- in the kitchen
- in the living room
- in the street
- in the garage



Ex. Zoe's Grandma is in the garden. (where?)
She is not happy. (happy?)

1. Zoe's mother _____

2. Zoe's father _____

3. Zoe and Sue _____

4. Jim and his friends _____

1



2



3



4



2 Look at the simple descriptions of each person. Then write sentences about them.



Mr. White

- a writer
- 43 years old
- tall, thin
- Zoe's father

Mr. White is a writer.

He is 43 years old.

He is tall and thin.

He is Zoe's father.



Brian

- a photographer
- 32 years old
- nice, friendly
- Zoe's uncle

Brian is _____



Sara

- a doctor
- 30 years old
- smart, beautiful
- Brian's friend

Sara is _____

3 Write sentences using **It is** or **They are**.

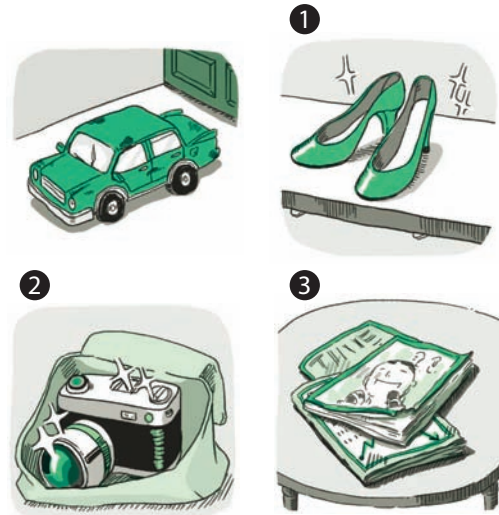
my father's car / an old car	Uncle Brian's camera / a new camera
Sara's magazines / old magazines	my mother's shoes / new shoes

Ex. There is a car in the garage.
It is my father's car. It is an old car.

1. There are shoes on the shelf.

2. There is a camera in the bag.

3. There are magazines on the table.



4 Read the passage. Then answer the questions by correcting the information.

Jim is a basketball player on the school's basketball team. He is a good player. Mr. Lucas is the basketball coach. He is a nice person. But he is very strict in training. Mr. Lucas is tall and handsome. Jim and Mr. Lucas are on the track.

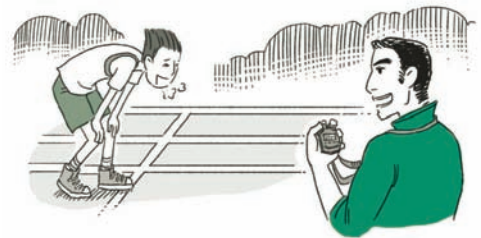
Ex. Is Jim a baseball player?
No, he isn't. He is a basketball player.

Is Jim a bad player?

Is Mr. Lucas a basketball player?

Is Mr. Lucas short and ugly?

Are they in the school gym?



5 This is Sue's dream room. Write sentences using **There is or **There are**.**



- a big bed
- a chair
- a mirror
- pillows
- earrings and necklaces
- a beautiful dress
- a jewelry box

There is a big bed in the room.

_____ on the bed.
 _____ on the wall.
 _____ in the corner.
 _____ on the chair.
 _____ on the table.
 _____ in the jewelry box.

6 Correct the underlined mistakes.

There is a nice park in our neighborhood. Its big and beautiful.

It's

They are many trees in the park. There is also many plants and flowers.

The flowers in the park is very beautiful. Sue and I am at the park.

We are on the bench. Ben is on the grass. His very happy.

7 Find the mistakes and correct them. (Focus on the *be* verb.)

a. There is some eggs in the refrigerator. There are a bottle of milk, too.

The apples is in the basket.

b. My mother and grandmother is in the garden. My grandmother isnt happy.

All the flowers in the garden is damaged.

: Writing Better Sentences

1 Combine the two sentences by joining the adjectives with **and**.

The princess is **tall**. The princess is **beautiful**.

→ The princess is tall and beautiful.

The frog is **short**. The frog is **ugly**.

→ _____

The princess is **sad**. The princess is **unhappy**.

→ _____

The children are **hungry**. The children are **tired**.

→ _____

The house is **nice**. The house is **warm**.

→ _____

The candies are **sweet**. The candies are **delicious**.

→ _____



2 Rewrite the sentences by modifying the highlighted nouns with the given adjectives.

Ex. There is a **ghost** in the old house. (scary)

→ There is a scary ghost in the old house.

1. David is a **soccer player**. (great)

→ _____

2. Maria is a **movie star**. (famous)

→ _____

3. A **man** is at the door. (strange)

→ _____

4. Crocodiles are **animals**. (dangerous)

→ _____

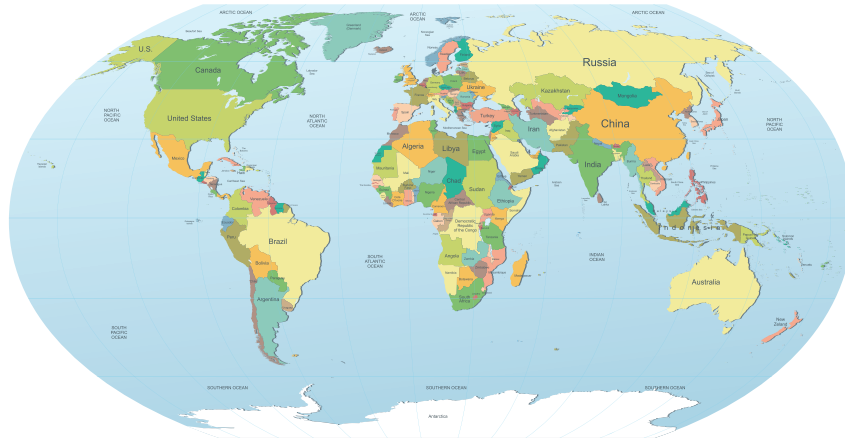
5. There is a **tiger** behind the tree. (big)

→ _____

: Writing Sentences with a Subject

Complete the sentences using the words in the box and the expressions:
 ... is/are in ... and It is/They are in ...

"Are you familiar with the world map?"



⊙ Oceans and Continents

_____ is between Asia and North America.
 _____ is between North America and Europe.
 _____ is between Africa and Oceania.

- The Atlantic Ocean
- The Indian Ocean
- The Pacific Ocean

⊙ Continents and Countries

Belgium *is in Europe*.
 Nigeria and Morocco _____.
 Mongolia _____.
 Canada _____.
 Bolivia and Brazil _____.
 New Zealand _____.

- Asia
- Europe
- South America
- Africa
- North America
- Oceania

⊙ Countries and Cities

Seoul is a nice city. *It is in Korea*.
 Tokyo and Osaka are big cities. _____.
 Paris is a beautiful city. _____.
 Sydney and Melbourne are beautiful cities. _____.
 New York is an interesting city. _____.
 New Delhi and Jakarta are interesting cities. _____.

- Korea
- India
- Japan
- France
- Australia
- America

: Building Paragraphs

1 Complete the sentences using the right forms of the verb *be*.

Hawaii is a popular vacation place.

It _____ part of the United States.

But it _____ not in the mainland US. It is in the Pacific Ocean. There _____ hundreds of big and small islands in Hawaii. Oahu _____ the most famous island of all.

There _____ many interesting things in Oahu.

The world-famous Waikiki Beach _____ also in Oahu.



2 Read the following paragraph and write one of your own.

My Classroom

My classroom is a nice place. It is big and bright. In the classroom there are new desks and chairs. There is a big clock on the wall. Posters and pictures are on the wall, too. Most of all, there are a wonderful teacher and good friends!



Write about a room you know: your room, your classroom, or a friend's room.

: Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the right words. Change the forms if necessary.

strange (a)

stranger (n)

- a. He is not a (). He is my friend.
b. He is a () person.
c. Two () are in the street.

exciting (a)

excited (a)

- a. It is an () story.
b. He is () about the news.
c. The movie is very ().

friend (n)

friendly (a)

- a. She is a () person.
b. Is he your ()?
c. Tom is a good ().

happy (a)

happiness (n)

- a. My mother is very () today.
b. Your () is my ().
c. He is a () child.