

THE VERB “TO BE”

We use the verb “to be” in the following situations:

- **When we talk about location:** In California, from Brazil, at home, in the park, etc.
- **When we talk about professions:** She is a teacher. He is doctor. They are police officers.
- **When we talk about the age:** I am twenty years old. My wife is 39 years old.
- **When talking about marital status:** single, married, divorced, widow, widower.
- **Before Adjectives:** They are thirsty, we are very patient, he is tall, she is very beautiful. It is very hot today.

A. Affirmative sentences:

I	am	old.
He		
She	is	
It		
You*		
We	are	
They		

* “You are” is used for both singular and plural.

B. Affirmative with contractions:

I'm	old.
He's	
She's	
It's	
You're	
We're	
They're	

C. Negative Sentences:

I	am	not	old.
He			
She			
It	is		
You*			
We	are		
They			

D. Negative sentences with contractions:

I 'm	not	old.
He's She's It's		
You're*		
We're They're		

E. Negative sentences with the contracted form of the verb.

I	am not	old.
He She It	isn't	
You*	aren't	
We They		

F. Questions:

Am	I	old?
	he she it	
Is		
Are	you* we they	

Examples:

I am a pilot.	I am in the classroom.
She is happy.	They are hungry.
My brother is ten years old.	My sister is single.
It is cold.	My dog is small.
The sun is yellow.	The moon is white.
The water is cold.	The field is green.

If you want to make a question just put the form of the verb “to be” at the beginning of a sentence.

Examples:

Statement:	He is a good teacher
Question:	Is he a good teacher?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, he is a good teacher.
Negative answer:	No, he is not a good teacher.

Statement:	The dogs are in the park.
Question:	Are the dogs in the park?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, the dogs are in the park.
Negative answer:	No, the dogs are not in the park.

Statement:	I am a student.
Question:	Am I student?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, you are a student.
Negative answer:	No, you are not a student.

Statement:	We are in the classroom.
Question:	Are we in the classroom?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, you (P) are in the classroom.
Negative answer:	No, you (P) are not in the classroom.

Statement:	She is a good student.
Question:	Is she a good student?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, she is a good student.
Negative answer:	No, she is not a good student.

Statement:	It is a good movie.
Question:	Is it a good movie?
Affirmative answer:	Yes, it is a good movie.
Negative answer:	No, it is not a good movie.



Change the following sentences into questions. Follow the example:

Statement: The students are in the classroom.

Question: Are the students in the classroom?

1. My mother is in the kitchen.

_____?

2. The dog is in the yard.

_____?

3. The students are in the classroom.

_____?

4. My father is at home.

_____?

5. My sister is at the supermarket?

_____?

6. Mary is a secretary.

_____?

7. Peter is an engineer.

_____?

8. We are students.

_____?

9. Your brother is a policeman.

_____?

10. John is a firefighter

11. The books are on the desk.

_____?

12. Sheila is a bookkeeper.

_____?

13. It is cold outside.

_____?

14. The television is in the living room.

_____?

15. France is in Europe.

_____?

16. My son is in fifth grade.

_____?

17. The Children are in the park.

_____?

18. The keys are in my pocket.

_____?

19. The White House is in Washington DC.

_____?

20. My car is in the garage.

_____?