

Verb To Be (Am/Is/Are) Exercises

Level: A1

The verb to be: am, is, are

The verb 'to be' changes form to match its subject — am, is or are — and builds its own negatives and questions without any helper verb.

Affirmative forms: Use am with I, is with he/she/it and other singular subjects, and are with you/we/they and plural subjects.

Contractions: In speech and informal writing, am/is/are usually shrink into the subject: I'm, you're, he's, she's, it's, we're, they're.

Negative forms: Add not right after the verb: is not/isn't, are not/aren't — but am not has no standard contraction, so I'm not is the only option.

Questions by inversion: Move the verb to the front of the sentence instead of adding do or does: Am I late? Is she home? Are they coming?

Short answers: Answer with subject plus the verb only, and don't contract the positive form: Yes, I am. No, he isn't.

No auxiliary needed: Unlike action verbs, to be never uses do/does/did to form negatives or questions — that's what sets it apart from a verb like work or live.

Exercise 1: Choose the Correct Form

Choose the correct form of the verb to be.

1. My brother ___ a taxi driver.
a) am b) is c) are
2. ___ you ready to order?
a) Am b) Is c) Are
3. We ___ not from this city.
a) am b) is c) are
4. I ___ sure this is the right address.
a) am b) is c) are
5. The kids ___ at school right now.
a) is b) are c) am
6. ___ she your coworker?
a) Am b) Is c) Are

Exercise 2: Fill in the Blank

Type the correct form of the verb to be.

7. My parents ___ on vacation this week. (be)

8. I ___ not angry, just tired. (be)
9. He ___ available until 3pm. (be, negative)
10. ___ this seat taken? (be)
11. You ___ late again — the meeting already started. (be)
12. We ___ not finished with the report yet. (be, negative)

Exercise 3: Put the Words in Order

Click the words in the correct order to build the sentence.

13. Put the words in the correct order: **decision / the / with / happy / not / is / she**

14. Put the words in the correct order: **evening / this / free / you / are**

15. Put the words in the correct order: **yet / ready / not / are / we**

16. Put the words in the correct order: **work / at / still / he / is**

Exercise 4: True or False

Decide if each statement is true or false.

17. The correct short answer to 'Are you tired?' is 'Yes, I are.' True / False
18. 'He isn't' is a correct contraction of 'he is not'. True / False
19. 'Am not' can be contracted to 'amn't' in standard English. True / False
20. In questions with the verb to be, the subject comes before the verb, just like in statements. True / False
21. 'They're' is short for 'they are'. True / False

Answer key

Exercise 1: Choose the Correct Form

1. b) is
2. c) Are
3. c) are
4. a) am
5. b) are
6. b) Is

Exercise 2: Fill in the Blank

7. are
8. am
9. isn't / is not
10. Is
11. are
12. are

Exercise 3: Put the Words in Order

13. she is not happy with the decision
14. are you free this evening
15. we are not ready yet
16. is he still at work

Exercise 4: True or False

17. False
18. True
19. False
20. False
21. True