

There is/There are

We use **there is** with singular nouns and **there are** with plural nouns.

GR4.1

Positive (+)	Negative (-)
There's an airport.	There isn't a hotel.
There are some restaurants.	There aren't any museums.
There are lots of trees.	There aren't a lot of trees.

Questions (?)	Short answers
Is there a train station?	Yes, there is . / No, there isn't .
Are there any shops?	Yes, there are . / No, there aren't .

- We use **there is/there are** to say that something or someone exists somewhere.

There's a chemist on Woodstock Road.

There are twenty-four rooms in the hotel.

- We use **there is/there are** the first time we talk about something and **it is/they are** the next time.

There's a nice hotel in the town. It's very comfortable.

There are lots of shops here, but **they are** all closed today.

- We often use **there is/there are** to describe places.

In my town **there are** a lot of restaurants.

- In a list of things we use **there is** if the first word is singular and **there are** if the first word is plural.

In my city **there are** lots of restaurants, a campsite and an old church.

In the hotel **there is** a swimming pool, a hairdresser's and ninety-five bedrooms.

- In positive sentences we usually use **some** or a number before plural nouns.

There are **some** glasses on the table.

There are **twenty** students in the room.

- 3 Complete the text about Beijing's underground city, Dixia Cheng. Use **there is**, **there isn't**, **there are** or **there aren't**.

Underneath the city of Beijing in China **1** **there is** a small city. It's about 50 years old. **2** **any** people living there now, but sometimes tourists can visit. **3** **lots** of restaurants, schools, theatres, factories and many public places, but they are all empty. **4** **a** big picture of Mao Zedong in nearly every large space. **5** **bedrooms** for about 300,000 people, but they aren't comfortable. In one bedroom **6** **a** desk and six beds. In another room **7** **a** lot of baths. **8** **any** windows. **9** **any** trees or flowers. It's never very cold and never hot because it's underground. It's not popular with tourists because it's dark and dangerous. Not many people in Beijing know that **10** **a** city under their feet.

1 Complete the sentences with the positive, negative or question form of **there is/there are**.

- Is there** a hospital in your town?
- lots** of hotels and a theatre.
- a** library near his house?
- any** trees in your garden?
- a** kitchen and two bathrooms in my flat.
- any** trains in my country.
- a** chemist in the hospital.
- any** cheap hotels in the city centre?
- a** museum or a theatre here, so I think it's boring.
- a** factory in my town. My father works there.

Use the symbols (✓) or (✗) to write positive or negative short answers.

- Is there a toilet in the cinema? ✓ **Yes, there is.**
- Are there any shops open now? ✗ **No,**
- Are there any nice beaches on the island? ✓
- Is there a theatre in your town? ✗
- Are there lots of restaurants near here? ✓
- Is there a museum in the city centre? ✓
- Are there any hotels? ✗
- Are there lots of people here in the summer? ✓

We usually use **any** before plural nouns in negative sentences and questions.

There aren't **any** chairs. (= **There are no** chairs.)

Are there **any** tables?

We also use **many** before plural nouns in negative sentences when we want to say there are fewer than we would like or expect.

There aren't **many** tables. (= **There are** some tables, but not enough or not as many as I expected.)

A Excuse me. **Is there**? **There's** a tourist information centre in the town?

B Yes, **there is** / **there's**. It's just near the railway station.

2 A **Is there** / **Are there** a cinema in the town centre?

B No, I'm sorry, **there isn't** / **there aren't**. But there's a theatre.

3 A **Are there** / **Is there** any nice restaurants near here?

B Yes, **there are** / **there're**. There's the Lanterna Restaurant in Queen Street and Nico's in Westgate.

4 A **Is there** / **Is there** a campsite near the beach?

B Yes, **there is** / **there's**. The Sunny Days Campsite is near the beach.

5 A **Are there** **a** / **any** bookshops in the village?

B No, I'm afraid **there aren't** / **there are no**.

6 A **Are there** **many** **thing** / **things** to see in the town?

B Yes, **are there** / **there are**. There are lots of things to see and do here.