

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 (X) to write positive or negative short answers.

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