

Be (am/is/are)

Affirmative	Negative
<i>I'm a journalist. (I'm = I am)</i>	<i>I'm not a journalist. (I'm not = I am not)</i>
<i>You're a photographer.* (you're = you are)</i>	<i>You aren't a photographer.* (you aren't = you are not)</i>
<i>He's/She's/It's from the US. (he's = he is)</i>	<i>He/She/It isn't from the US. (he isn't = he is not)</i>
<i>We're from Canada. (we're = we are)</i>	<i>We aren't from Canada. (we aren't = we are not)</i>
<i>They're beautiful. (they're = they are)</i>	<i>They aren't beautiful. (they aren't = they are not)</i>

* Remember that we use *you* to refer to a single person or a group of people.


When we speak and in informal writing we normally use contractions of *be* after pronouns. We use an apostrophe (') to show a missing letter. With *is not* and *are not* there are two possible contractions.

He isn't American. = He's not American.

They're not married. = They aren't married.

5 Look at the grammar box. Complete the information with the correct forms of the verb *be*.

- a affirmative: I _____, you _____, he _____
- b negative: I _____, we _____, she _____
- c questions: _____ you ...? _____ he ...?
- d short answers: Yes, I _____. Yes, it _____. No, you _____. No, he _____.

6  **3** Circle the correct options to complete the conversation. Then listen and check.

A: Hello. What ¹ *are / 's* your name?

B: My name's Mike Burney.

A: ² *Are / Is* you married?

B: Yes, ³ *I'm / I am*. My wife's name is Sally. She ⁴ *aren't / isn't* here today.

A: What's her job?

B: ⁵ *She're / She's* a teacher. ⁶ *I'm / I's* also a teacher.

A: Are you both from the United States?

B: No, we ⁷ *isn't / aren't*. I'm from the US, but Sally is from Canada.

A: And how old ⁸ *are / 's* you?

B: I'm thirty-six.

A: Is Sally also thirty-six?

B: No, she ⁹ *'m not / isn't*. She's thirty-five.