

1 Be: Present Simple (1)

1 Here are some examples of be in the Present Simple:

*This is my brother. He's ten years old.
I'm a student. These are my books.
They aren't at home. They're at the theatre.*

2 We form the Present Simple of be like this:

POSITIVE		
	FULL FORM	SHORT FORM
Singular	I am	I'm
	you are	you're
	he/she/it is	he's/she's/it's
Plural	we are	we're
	you are	you're
	they are	they're
NEGATIVE		
	FULL FORM	SHORT FORM
Singular	I am not	I'm not
	you are not	you aren't
	he/she/it is not	he/she/it isn't
Plural	we are not	we aren't
	you are not	you aren't
	they are not	they aren't

3 In speech, we usually use the short forms:

*She's my sister. He's my brother.
I'm from Italy. They're German.*

4 We use be:

► to say who we are:

I'm Steve and this is my friend Bill. We're from Scotland.

I'm Janet and these are my sisters. This is Sandra and this is Patricia. Sandra and Patricia are doctors.

► to talk about the weather:

It's cold today.

It's a beautiful day.

It's usually hot here

It isn't very warm today.

► to talk about the time:

It's ten o'clock.

It's half past four.

You're late!

► to talk about places:

Milan is in the north of Italy.

John and Mary are in Yorkshire.

► to talk about people's ages:

My sister is six years old.

Practice

A Maria is from Brazil. She is writing about herself and her family. Put full forms of be in the gaps.

- I am a student from Brazil.
- My parents are not (not) rich.
- 1 My father a teacher.
- 2 My mother (not) Brazilian.
- 3 She from America.
- 4 I twenty years old.
- 5 My little brother two.
- 6 My older brothers (not) students.
- 7 They in the army.
- 8 It often very hot in Brazil.

B Now fill these gaps. This time, use short forms of *be*, as in the examples.

► I'm a doctor. ► I'm not (not) a bank manager.

1 She (not) a teacher. 6 It eight o'clock.
2 He a student. 7 We from Paris.
3 They at home. 8 We (not) from Bordeaux.
4 They (not) in the park. 9 You (not) twenty-one.
5 It (not) cold today. 10 I twenty-four.

C Choose words from the box to put in the gaps.

He's She's They're It's (x2) are is We isn't

► My parents live in Scotland. They're teachers.

1 New York in England. in America.
2 Paul from Germany. German.
3 My sister is a doctor. thirty years old.
4 six o'clock! are late.
5 Look at the time! Chris and Mary late.

D Look at these pictures. These people are saying who they are. Write sentences, choosing the correct jobs from the box, as in the example.

a pop star a farmer a bank manager a footballer a dentist a doctor
a policeman an artist a teacher a film star a scientist a photographer

►  names: I'm Paolo and this is Federico.
nationality: We're from Italy.
jobs: I'm a policeman and Federico is a footballer.

1  names:
nationality:
jobs:
2  names:
nationality:
jobs:
3  names:
nationality:
jobs:
4  names:
nationality:
jobs:
5  names:
nationality:
jobs: