

36 Questions with be



- Who is he? He's Andrea Bocelli.
- Is he British? No, he isn't. He's Italian.

1 Form

Yes/No QUESTIONS			SHORT ANSWERS	
Am	I	late?	Yes, I am.	No, I'm not.
Is	he/she/it		Yes, he/she/it is.	No, he/she/it isn't. No, he's/she's/it's not.
Are	we		Yes, we are.	No, we aren't/we're not.
Are	you		Yes, you are.	No, you aren't/you're not.
Are	they		Yes, they are.	No, they aren't/they're not.

Wh- QUESTIONS

Where	am	I?
Who	are	you?
What	is ('s)	your job?
How old	is ('s)	your brother?

2 Use

We use *be* to ask about

- names, nationality, jobs and family:
What's your name? Is Sandra Canadian? Are they doctors? Is she married?
- feelings:
Are you hungry? How are you? Is she happy?
- position and time:
Where is it? Is your house near here? What time is it? Am I late?

! In questions, we put the verb *be* before the subject of the sentence:

- ~~✗ You are hungry?~~ ✓ *Are you hungry?*
~~✗ What your job is?~~ ✓ *What's your job?*

3 Short answers

We usually use the short form of the verb in short answers with *no*:
Is he British? No, he isn't.

! We don't use the short form of the verb in short answers with *yes*:

- ~~✗ Yes, they're.~~
Are those people students? ✓ Yes, they are.

! We use pronouns, not nouns, in short answers:

- ~~✗ Yes, my house is.~~
Is your house near here? ✓ Yes, it is.
~~✗ Yes, Carrie and Karl are.~~
Are Carrie and Karl married? ✓ Yes, they are.

Practice

1 Write questions. Use the words below.

- 0 you / English / or / Scottish *Are you English or Scottish?*
 00 where / your / house *Where is your house?*
 1 Maria / a / student
 2 your / brothers / married
 3 where / the / post office
 4 I / early
 5 who / your / teacher
 6 the / station / near / here

2 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the conversation with forms of be.

- A What a lovely family photo. (0) *Are* they your children?
 B No, they (1) They (2) my sister's children.
 A The girl (3) pretty. How old (4) she?
 B She (5) four.
 A (6) she at school?
 B No, she (7) She (8) very young!
 A Who (9) the two people at the back?
 B They (10) my parents.



3 Write true short answers.

- 0 Are you American? *No, I'm not.*
 1 Are you a student?
 2 Are you Polish?
 3 Are you married?
 4 Are your parents teachers?
 5 Is your house in a town?
 6 Is Eminem Australian?
 7 Are Mercedes cars German?
 8 Is it winter now?

4 Complete the questions and give true answers. Write complete sentences.

- 0 What *is* your surname?
My surname is Lopez.
 1 What nationality you?

 2 How old your brother/sister?

 3 Where your parents at the moment?

 4 What the name of your home town?

 5 Who your favourite singer?
