

10.1C 'Be' in the simple present and simple past [> LEG 10.6-9]

Study:



In the **simple present** and **simple past** we use *be* as a full verb with nouns and adjectives. Be careful of instances when English makes use of *be* where other languages sometimes don't. For example: *I am hungry* (Not **I have hunger**), *It's cold* (Not **It makes cold**)

Write: Supply *am, is, are, was, were* or *weren't*.

- 1 Her family name is now Jones, but it *was* Smith before she got married.
- 2 The name of the country previously Rhodesia, but it now Zimbabwe.
- 3 I hungry. – You can't be. We only had breakfast an hour ago.
- 4 It very cold and windy today, so wear a coat.
- 5 She a very nice woman, but her late husband a very unpleasant man.
- 6 This a beautiful blue dress. Buy it.
- 7 Today 23rd March: yesterday the 22nd.
- 8 I'm sure the twins 18 today: they 17 last year.
- 9 Whose these? – They Sue's, but she gave them to me, so they mine now.
- 10 Here, this book yours, and that one Jim's. They were both on the floor.
- 11 The other students here already. They all downstairs in the canteen.
- 12 The party next Saturday evening at Petra's house.
- 13 Mr James in? – No, I'm sorry, he here not long ago, but now he out.
- 14 Fred and Carmen at home when you called? – No, they, but they home now.
- 15 It quite foggy tonight, but it far worse last night.
- 16 It only 2 miles to the shops now. It 20 miles to any shops from our old house.
- 17 My ambition to start my own window-cleaning business, but it didn't work out.
- 18 Her dream to dance with the Royal Ballet Company.

10.1D Context

Write: Put in the correct forms of the verb *be*. Use contracted forms (e.g. *I'm*) where you can.



... her class of five-year-olds

YOU TRY TEACHING FIVE-YEAR-OLDS!

Yesterday, it ¹ *was* Mrs Ray's first day at school with her class of five-year-olds.

MRS RAY: Now, you ² Liz, ³ you?

LIZ 1: Yes, I ⁴ Liz

LIZ 2: I'm Liz, too, ⁵ I?

MRS RAY: Yes. You ⁶ Liz, too. You ⁷ another Liz.

LIZ 2: I ⁸ not Another Liz. I ⁹ Liz.

MRS RAY: Of course. Well, Liz, ¹⁰ a good girl and fetch some chalk from the cupboard.

BOY: ¹¹ careful! Don't drop it!

MRS RAY: What ¹² your name?

BOY: I ¹³ Don.

MRS RAY: Don ¹⁴ a nice name. What do you want to ¹⁵ when you grow up, Don?

DON: A racing driver. Brrrm, brrrm, brrrm ...!

MRS RAY: ¹⁶ yourself again! (Brrrm! Brrrm!) Stop it, Don, or I'll tickle you. ¹⁷ you ticklish?

DON: No, I ¹⁸ Scottish!