

There is / there are

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a It is a lovely park near my house.
b There is a lovely park near my house.
- 2 a There have very good restaurants and shops on board the ship.
b There are very good restaurants and shops on board the ship.

We use *there* to say that something exists. We use *there is* with a singular subject and *there are* with a plural subject:

There is an oak tree in my garden. (not ~~*It is an oak tree*~~ or ~~*There have an oak tree*~~)

There are some great movies on at the cinema. (not ~~*They are some great movies*~~)

We use *there is* and *there are* to give new information. We use *it is* or *they are* to talk about something that has already been referred to. Compare:

There is a present for you on the table. (the first time the present has been mentioned)

Mary: What is *that* you're carrying?

John: *It's a present for my sister.* (it = what John is carrying)

We do not use the auxiliary verb *do* to form questions and negatives with *there is* and *there are*: *Are there any clean glasses in the cupboard?* *There isn't a map in the car.*

☆ *There cannot be left out: There is a pan of soup and there are some bowls in the kitchen.* (not ~~*There is a pan of soup and are some bowls in the kitchen.*~~)

2 Correct the mistake below.



Before they built the supermarket, in the high street.

3 Correct the mistakes in the sentences below.

- 1 In developed countries there is many possible solutions to this problem.
- 2 There no clear trend in the data shown in graph 1.
- 3 There is no electricity and are no factories in this area.
- 4 Fortunately, they are still a lot of good people in the world.
- 5 It is a very small village so there don't have any large supermarkets.
- 6 In the first chart, it is a large gap between the cost of living and salaries earned.
- 7 In 1990 there was 3 million people working in this industry.
- 8 How much work there is to do?