

CAMBRIDGE

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Essential Grammar in Use

A self-study reference and practice book
for elementary learners of English

Fourth Edition

with answers

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am/is/are

A

My name **is** Lisa. I'm 22.

I'm American. I'm from Chicago.

I'm a student.

My father **is** a doctor and my mother **is** a journalist.

My favourite colour **is** blue.

My favourite sports **are** football and swimming.

I'm interested in art.

I'm **not** interested in politics.

LISA

B

positive

negative

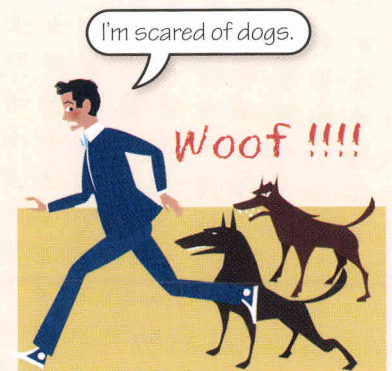
I	am	(I'm)
he		(he's)
she	is	(she's)
it		(it's)
we		(we're)
you	are	(you're)
they		(they're)

short form

I	am not	(I'm not)
he		(he's not or he isn't)
she	is not	(she's not or she isn't)
it		(it's not or it isn't)
we		(we're not or we aren't)
you	are not	(you're not or you aren't)
they		(they're not or they aren't)

short forms

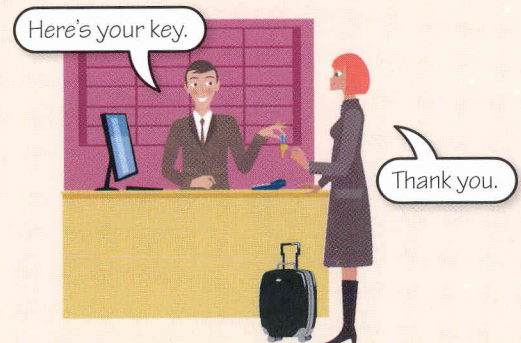
- I'm cold. Can you close the window, please?
- I'm 32 years old. My sister **is** 29.
- Steve **is** ill. He's in bed.
- My brother **is** scared of dogs.
- It's ten o'clock. You're late again.
- Ann and I **are** good friends.
- Your keys **are** on the table.
- I'm tired, but I'm **not** hungry.
- Lisa **isn't** interested in politics. She's interested in art.
- James **isn't** a teacher. He's a student.
- Those people **aren't** English. They're Australian.
- It's sunny today, but it **isn't** warm.



C

that's = that **is** there's = there **is** here's = here **is**

- Thank you. That's very kind of you.
- Look! There's Chris.
- 'Here's your key.' 'Thank you.'



Exercises

1.1 Write the short form (**she's** / **we aren't** etc.).

- 1 she is she's 3 it is not 5 I am not
- 2 they are 4 that is 6 you are not

1.2 Write **am, is** or **are**.

- 1 The weather is nice today. 5 Look! There Helen.
- 2 I not rich. 6 My brother and I good tennis players.
- 3 This bag heavy. 7 Emily at home. Her children at school.
- 4 These bags heavy. 8 I a taxi driver. My sister a nurse.

1.3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 Steve is ill. He's in bed.
- 2 I'm not hungry, but thirsty.
- 3 Mr Thomas is a very old man. 98.
- 4 These chairs aren't beautiful, but comfortable.
- 5 The weather is nice today. warm and sunny.
- 6 '..... late.' 'No, I'm not. I'm early!'
- 7 Catherine isn't at home. at work.
- 8 '..... your coat.' 'Oh, thank you very much.'

1.4 Look at Lisa's sentences in 1A. Now write sentences about yourself.

- 1 (name?) My 5 (favourite colour or colours?)
- 2 (age?) I My
- 3 (from?) I 6 (interested in ... ?)
- 4 (job?) I I

1.5 Write sentences for the pictures. Use:

angry cold hot hungry scared ~~thirsty~~



- 1 She's thirsty. 3 He 5
- 2 They 4 6

1.6 Write true sentences, positive or negative. Use **is/isn't** or **are/aren't**.

- 1 (it / hot today) It isn't hot today. or It's hot today.
- 2 (it / windy today) It
- 3 (my hands / cold) My
- 4 (Brazil / a very big country)
- 5 (diamonds / cheap)
- 6 (Toronto / in the US)

Write true sentences, positive or negative. Use **I'm** / **I'm not**.

- 7 (tired) I'm tired. or I'm not tired.
- 8 (hungry) I
- 9 (a good swimmer)
- 10 (interested in football)

am/is/are (questions)

A

positive

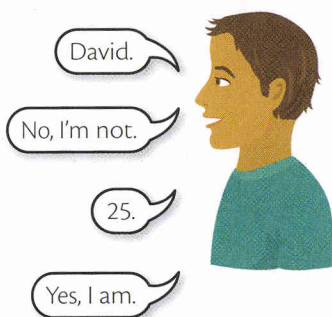
I	am
he she it	is
we you they	are

question

am	I?
is	he? she? it?
are	we? you? they?



- What's your name?
- Are you married?
- How old are you?
- Are you a student?



- 'Am I late?' 'No, **you're** on time.'
- 'Is your mother at home?' 'No, **she's** out.'
- 'Are your parents at home?' 'No, **they're** out.'
- 'Is it cold in your room?' 'Yes, a little.'
- Your shoes are** nice. **Are they** new?

We say:

- Is she** at home? / **Is your mother** at home? (*not* Is at home your mother?)
- Are they** new? / **Are your shoes** new? (*not* Are new your shoes?)

B

Where ... ? / What ... ? / Who ... ? / How ... ? / Why ... ?

- Where is** your mother? Is she at home?
- '**Where are** you from?' 'Canada.'
- '**What colour is** your car?' 'It's red.'
- '**How old is** Joe?' 'He's 24.'
- How are** your parents? Are they well?
- These shoes are nice. **How much are** they?
- This hotel isn't very good. **Why is** it so expensive?

what's = what **is** who's = who **is** how's = how **is** where's = where **is**

- What's** the time?
- Who's** that man?
- Where's** Lucy?
- How's** your father?

C

Short answers

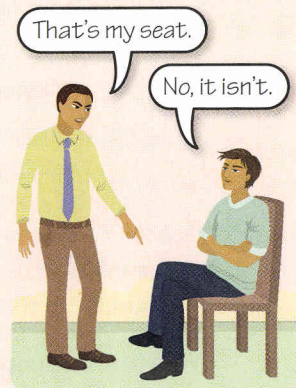
Yes,	I	am.
	he she it	is.
	we you they	are.

No,	I'm	not.
	he's she's it's	
	we're you're they're	

or

No,	he she it	isn't.
	we you they	aren't.

- '**Are you** tired?' '**Yes, I am.**'
- '**Are you** hungry?' '**No, I'm not,** but I'm thirsty.'
- '**Is your friend** English?' '**Yes, he is.**'
- '**Are these** your keys?' '**Yes, they are.**'
- '**That's** my seat.' '**No, it isn't.**'



Exercises

2.1 Find the right answers for the questions.

- 1 Where's the camera?
- 2 Is your car blue?
- 3 Is Kate from London?
- 4 Am I late?
- 5 Where's Amy from?
- 6 What colour is your bag?
- 7 Are you hungry?
- 8 How is George?
- 9 Who's that woman?

- A London.
- B No, I'm not.
- C Yes, you are.
- D My sister.
- E Black.
- F No, it's black.
- G In your bag.
- H No, she's American.
- I Very well.

- 1 G
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9

2.2 Make questions with these words.

- 1 (is / at home / your mother) Is your mother at home
- 2 (your parents / are / well) Are your parents well
- 3 (interesting / is / your job)
- 4 (the shops / are / open today)
- 5 (from / where / you / are)
- 6 (interested in sport / you / are)
- 7 (is / near here / the station)
- 8 (at school / are / your children)
- 9 (you / are / late / why)

2.3 Complete the questions. Use **What ... / Who ... / Where ... / How ...** .

- 1 How are your parents?
- 2 the bus stop?
- 3 your children?
- 4 these oranges?
- 5 your favourite sport?
- 6 the man in this photo?
- 7 your new shoes?

They're very well.
At the end of the street.
Five, six and ten.
£1.50 a kilo.
Skiing.
That's my father.
Black.

2.4 Write the questions.

- 1 (name?) What's your name?
- 2 (American?)
- 3 (how old?)
- 4 (a teacher?)
- 5 (married?)
- 6 (wife a lawyer?)
- 7 (from?)
- 8 (her name?)
- 9 (how old?)

PAUL
Paul.
No, I'm Australian.
I'm 30.
No, I'm a lawyer.
Yes, I am.
No, she's a designer.
She's Italian.
Anna.
She's 27.

2.5 Write short answers (**Yes, I am.** / **No, he isn't.** etc.).

- 1 Are you married? No, I'm not.
- 2 Are you thirsty?
- 3 Is it cold today?
- 4 Are your hands cold?
- 5 Is it dark now?
- 6 Are you a teacher?

I am doing (present continuous)

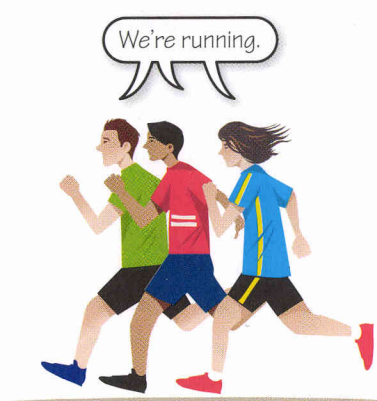
A



She's eating.
She **isn't** reading.



It's raining.
The sun **isn't** shining.



They're running.
They **aren't** walking.

The present continuous is:

am/is/are + doing/eating/running/writing etc.

I	am (not)	-ing
he she it	is (not)	
we you they	are (not)	

- I'm working. I'm not watching TV.
- Maria **is** reading a newspaper.
- She **isn't** eating. (or She's not eating.)
- The bus **is** coming.
- We're having dinner.
- You're not listening to me. (or You aren't listening ...)
- The children **are** doing their homework.

B

am/is/are + -ing = something is happening *now*:

I'm working
she's wearing a hat
they're playing football
I'm not watching TV

past now future

- Please be quiet. I'm working. (= I'm working now)
- Look, there's Sarah. She's wearing a brown coat. (= she is wearing it now)
- The weather is nice. It's not raining.
- 'Where are the children?' 'They're playing in the park.'
- (on the phone) We're having dinner now. Can I call you later?
- You can turn off the television. I'm not watching it.

Spelling (→ Appendix 5):

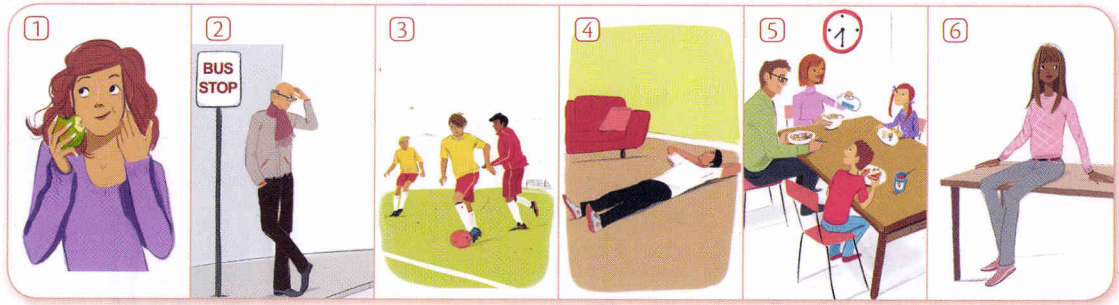
come → coming write → writing dance → dancing
run → running sit → sitting swim → swimming
lie → lying

am/is/are → Unit 1 are you doing? (questions) → Unit 4 I am doing and I do → Unit 8
What are you doing tomorrow? → Unit 25

Exercises

3.1 What are these people doing? Use these verbs to complete the sentences:

~~eat~~ have lie play sit wait



- 1 *She's eating* an apple.
- 2 He for a bus.
- 3 They football.
- 4 on the floor.
- 5 breakfast.
- 6 on the table.

3.2 Complete the sentences. Use these verbs:

build cook go have stand stay swim ~~work~~

- 1 Please be quiet. I *'m working*.
- 2 'Where's John?' 'He's in the kitchen. He
- 3 'You on my foot.' 'Oh, I'm sorry.'
- 4 Look! Somebody in the river.
- 5 We're here on holiday. We at the Central Hotel.
- 6 'Where's Sue?' 'She a shower.'
- 7 They a new hotel in the city centre at the moment.
- 8 I now. Goodbye.

3.3 Look at the picture. Write sentences about Jane. Use **She's -ing** or **She isn't -ing**.



Jane

- 1 (have dinner) *Jane isn't having dinner.*
- 2 (watch TV) *She's watching TV.*
- 3 (sit on the floor) She
- 4 (read a book)
- 5 (play the piano)
- 6 (laugh)
- 7 (wear a hat)
- 8 (drink coffee)

3.4 What's happening now? Write true sentences.

- 1 (I / wash / my hair) *I'm not washing my hair.*
- 2 (it / snow) *It's snowing.* or *It isn't snowing.*
- 3 (I / sit / on a chair)
- 4 (I / eat)
- 5 (it / rain)
- 6 (I / learn / English)
- 7 (I / listen / to music)
- 8 (the sun / shine)
- 9 (I / wear / shoes)
- 10 (I / read / a newspaper)

are you doing? (present continuous questions)

A

positive

I	am	doing working going staying etc.
he she it	is	
we you they	are	

question

am	I	doing? working? going? staying? etc.
is	he she it	
are	we you they	



- 'Are you **feeling** OK?' 'Yes, I'm fine, thanks.'
- 'Is it **raining**?' 'Yes, take an umbrella.'
- Why **are** you **wearing** a coat? It's not cold.
- 'What's Paul **doing**?' 'He's **studying** for his exams.'
- 'What **are** the children **doing**?' 'They're **watching** TV.'
- Look, there's Emily! Where's she **going**?
- Who **are** you **waiting** for? **Are** you **waiting** for Sue?

B

Study the word order:

is/are + *subject* + **-ing**

	Is	he	working today?
Where	Is	Ben	working today? (<i>not Is working Ben today?</i>)
Where	are	they	going ?
Where	are	those people	going ? (<i>not Where are going those people?</i>)

C

Short answers

Yes,	I	am.	No,	I'm	not.	or	No,	he	isn't.
	he	is.		he's				she	
	she			she's				it	
it	are.	it's	we're	aren't.					
we		you're	you						
you		they're	they						

- 'Are you **going** now?' 'Yes, I **am**.'
- 'Is Ben **working** today?' 'Yes, he **is**.'
- 'Is it **raining**?' 'No, it **isn't**.'
- 'Are your friends **staying** at a hotel?' 'No, they **aren't**. They're staying with me.'

Exercises

4.1 Look at the pictures and write the questions.

<p>1 (you / watch / it?) <i>Are you watching it?</i></p> <p>No, you can turn it off.</p>	<p>2 (you / go / now?)</p> <p>Yes, see you tomorrow.</p>	<p>3 (it / rain?)</p> <p>No, not at the moment.</p>
<p>4 (you / enjoy / the film?)</p> <p>Yes, it's very funny.</p>	<p>5 (that clock / work?)</p> <p>No, it's broken.</p>	<p>6 (you / wait / for a bus?)</p> <p>No, for a taxi.</p>

4.2 Look at the pictures and complete the questions. Use:

cry eat go laugh look at -read

<p>1 What <u>are you</u> <u>reading</u> ?</p>	<p>2 Where she ?</p>	<p>3 What ?</p>
<p>4 Why ?</p>	<p>5 What ?</p>	<p>6 Why ?</p>

4.3 Make questions from these words. Put the words in the right order.

- (is / working / Ben / today) Is Ben working today
- (what / the children / are / doing) What are the children doing
- (you / are / listening / to me)
- (where / your friends / are / going)
- (are / watching / your parents / TV)
- (what / Jessica / is / cooking)
- (why / you / are / looking / at me)
- (is / coming / the bus)

4.4 Write short answers (Yes, I am. / No, it isn't. etc.).

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Are you watching TV? <u>No, I'm not.</u> | 4 Is it raining? |
| 2 Are you wearing a watch? | 5 Are you sitting on the floor? |
| 3 Are you eating something? | 6 Are you feeling well? |

Additional exercises

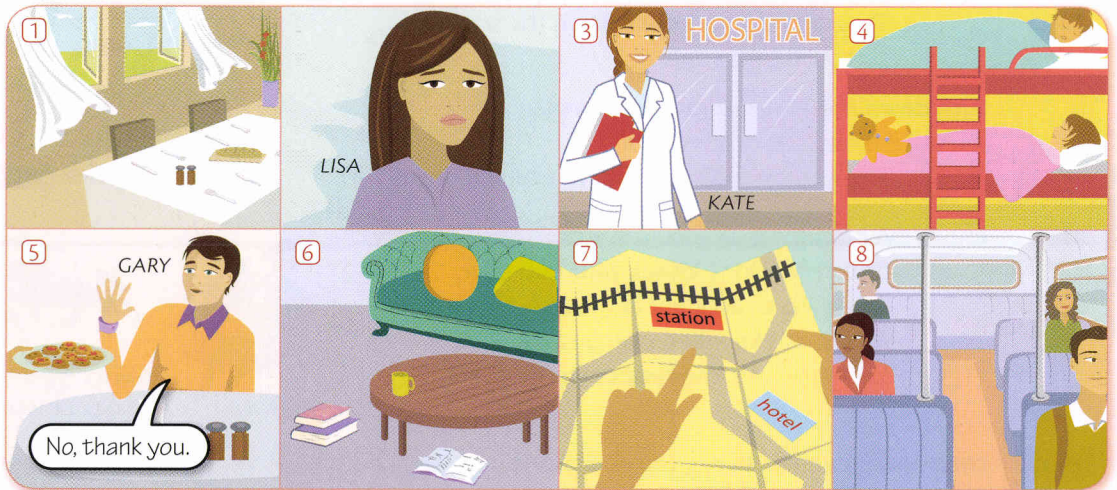
List of exercises:

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am/is/are

Units 1-2

1 Write sentences for the pictures. Use the words in the boxes + **is/isn't/are/aren't**.



~~The windows~~
~~Lisa~~
 Kate
 The children
 Gary
 The books
 The hotel
 The bus

on the table
 hungry
 asleep
~~open~~
 full
 near the station
 a doctor
~~happy~~

- 1 The windows are open.
- 2 Lisa isn't happy.
- 3 Kate
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

2 Complete the sentences.

- 1 'Are you hungry?' 'No, but I'm thirsty.'
- 2 'How are your parents?' 'They're fine.'
- 3 'Is Anna at home?' 'No, at work.'
- 4 '..... my keys?' 'On your desk.'
- 5 Where is Paul from? American or British?
- 6 very hot today. The temperature is 38 degrees.
- 7 'Are you a teacher?' 'No, a student.'
- 8 '..... your umbrella?' 'Green.'
- 9 Where's your car? in the car park?
- 10 '..... tired?' 'No, I'm fine.'
- 11 'These shoes are nice. How?' 'Sixty pounds.'

present continuous (I'm working / are you working? etc.)

Units 3-4

3 Use the words in brackets to write sentences.

- 1 A: Where are your parents?
B: They're watching TV. (they / watch / TV)
- 2 A: Paula is going out.
B: Where's she going? (where / she / go?)
- 3 A: Where's David?
B: (he / have / a shower)
- 4 A: ? (the children / play?)
B: No, they're asleep.
- 5 A: ? (it / rain?)
B: No, not at the moment.
- 6 A: Where are Sue and Steve?
B: (they / come / now)
- 7 A: ? (why / you / stand / here?)
B: (I / wait / for somebody)

present simple (I work / she doesn't work / do you work? etc.)

Units 5-7

4 Complete the sentences. Use the present simple.

- 1 Sue always gets to work early. (Sue / always / get)
- 2 We don't watch TV very often. (we / not / watch)
- 3 How often do you wash your hair? (you / wash)
- 4 I want to go to the cinema, but to go. (Sam / not / want)
- 5 to go out tonight? (you / want)
- 6 near here? (Helen / live)
- 7 a lot of people. (Sarah / know)
- 8 I enjoy travelling, but very much. (I / not / travel)
- 9 What time in the morning? (you / usually / get up)
- 10 My parents are usually at home in the evening.
..... very often. (they / not / go out)
- 11 work at five o'clock. (Tom / always / finish)
- 12 A: What ? (Jessica / do)
B: in a hotel. (she / work)