

Grammar Booster

The Grammar Booster is optional. It offers a variety of information and extra practice. Sometimes it further explains or expands the Unit grammar and points out common errors. In other cases, it reviews and practices previously learned grammar that would be helpful when learning new grammar concepts. If you use the Grammar Booster, you will find extra exercises in the Workbook in a separate section labeled Grammar Booster. The Grammar Booster content is not tested on any *Top Notch* tests.

UNIT 1 Lesson 1

Information questions with be: usage and form

Use Who to ask about people, What to ask about things, Where to ask about places, and How old to ask about age.

Singular nouns

Who's your teacher?
What's your name?
Where's your father from?
How old is your sister?

Plural nouns

Who are the new students?
What are their names?
Where are your classmates from?
How old are your children?

A Choose an answer for each question.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ 1 What's your name? | a Scotland, actually. She's British. |
| _____ 2 Where is she from? | b He's the CEO of BRC Incorporated. |
| _____ 3 Where's her father from? | c Kim's father? Seoul, I think. |
| _____ 4 Who is Bernard Udall? | d Eighteen and ten. |
| _____ 5 How old are your cousins? | e Ivan. But everyone calls me Vanya. |

Possessive nouns and adjectives

Possessive nouns

Add **'s** to a name or a noun.

Where is **Peter's** father from? What's the **teacher's** name?

Add an apostrophe (') to plural nouns that end in **-s**.

What are the **students'** names?

Add **'s** to the name or noun that comes last in a list of two or more.

When is **Sally and Hannah's** class?

Possessive adjectives

Where's Chad's father from? → Where's **his** father from?

What's Sheila's last name? → What's **her** last name?

What's Lee and Ping's address? → What's **their** address?

I	→	my
you	→	your
he	→	his
she	→	her
it	→	its
we	→	our
they	→	their



B Complete each sentence with a possessive form of the noun.

- 1 (**Dean**) father is an engineer.
- 2 What is (**Janec**) e-mail address?
- 3 The book is (**Kayla**).
- 4 (**Nicole and Sean**) class is at eight.
- 5 What are your (**brothers**) occupations?

C On a separate sheet of paper, write a question for each answer, using What and a possessive adjective.

- 1 My occupation? I'm a student. *What's your occupation?*
- 2 Lin and Ben's? It's 2 Bay Street.
- 3 His phone number? It's 21-66-55.
- 4 Dave's last name? It's Bourne.
- 5 Sandra's nickname? It's Sandy.
- 6 My e-mail address? It's acme4@ymail.com.
- 7 Ray's? His address is 456 Rue Noire.

D Complete each sentence with a possessive adjective.

- 1 This is my sister. husband is from Ecuador.
- 2 Robert is a new student here. nickname is Bobby.
- 3 My friends live in London, but hometown is in Scotland.
- 4 My husband and I live in Chicago, but children don't.
- 5 I'd like you to meet colleague Sam. He works with me at the bank.
- 6 I like that picture. colors are very nice.

UNIT 1 Lesson 2

Verb be: usage and form

The verb be gives information about the subject of a sentence. The subject of a sentence can be a noun or a pronoun.

noun subject

Our teacher is from the United States.

That school is new.

pronoun subject

She is from the United States.

It is new.

Affirmative statements

There are three forms of the verb be in the present tense: am, is, and are.

I **am** a student.

He

She **is** late.

It

You

We **are** married.

They

Contracted forms

Contract be with subject nouns and pronouns. Use contractions in speaking and informal writing.

Robin is an artist. = **Robin's** an artist.

I am a student. = **I'm** a student.

He is single. = **He's** single.

You are on time. = **You're** on time.

Negative contractions

There are two ways to form negative contractions.

He's **not** Brazilian. = He **isn't** Brazilian.

They're **not** teachers. = They **aren't** teachers.

Note: There is only one way to contract I am not → **I'm not**.

Short answers with be: common errors

Don't use contractions with affirmative short answers to yes / no questions.

Are you a salesperson?	Yes, I am. NOT Yes, I'm.
Is he American?	Yes, he is. NOT Yes, he's.
Are they designers?	Yes, they are. NOT Yes, they're.

Note: It is also common to answer just with Yes or No.

Are you a salesperson?	Yes.
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A On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the sentences, using contractions. Then practice saying each sentence aloud.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 She is an opera singer. | 3 I am a student. | 5 My mother is late. |
| 2 They are managers. | 4 Bart is from Australia. | 6 Your father is nice. |

B On a separate sheet of paper, write a short answer for each question.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Is New York in Russia? | 4 Is Italy a city? | 7 Are you Canadian? |
| 2 Are you a scientist? | 5 Is it 3:00 right now? | 8 Is your father a manager? |
| 3 Are Korea and Japan in Asia? | 6 Are you a student? | 9 Is English difficult? |