

# “To be”

The verb “**to be**” is the most important verb in the English language. It is an irregular verb in almost all of its forms.

## Affirmative forms:

Simple present		
Subject pronouns	Full form	Contracted form
I	am	'm
You	are	're
He/She/It	is	's
We	are	're
You	are	're
They	are	're

Simple past	
Subject pronouns	Full form
I	was
You	were
He/She/It	was
We	were
You	were
They	were

### EXAMPLES :

- I **was** 13 years old when I had my first period.
- We **were** worried that she wouldn't make it.
- It's my first pregnancy.
- Young women **are** less likely to have breast cancer.
- I **am** sick.

## Negative forms:

Simple present		
Subject pronouns	Full form	Contracted form
I	am not	'm not
You	are not	aren't
He/She/It	is not	isn't
We	are not	aren't
You	are not	aren't
They	are not	aren't

EXAMPLES :  
- I **wasn't** aware of the importance of screening mammography.  
- We **are not** using any contraceptive method in order for me to get pregnant.  
- My first pregnancy **was not** planned.  
- They're **not** taking enough rest from the shifts.  
- I'm **not** aware of any studies backing this claim.

Simple past		
Subject pronouns	Full form	Contracted form
I	was not	wasn't
You	were not	weren't
He/She/It	was not	wasn't
We	were not	weren't
You	were not	weren't
They	were not	weren't

## Interrogative forms:

Simple present	
<u>Full form</u>	<u>Subject pronouns</u>
Am	I ?
Are	you ?
Is	he/she/it ?
Are	we ?
Are	you ?
Are	they ?

Simple past	
<u>Full form</u>	<u>Subject pronouns</u>
Was	I ?
Were	you ?
Was	he/she/it ?
Were	we ?
Were	you ?
Were	they ?

### EXAMPLES :

- When **was** your last pap-smear ?
- **Are** you on hormone replacement therapy ?
- **Is** this your first miscarriage ?
- **Am** I pregnant ?
- **Were** you able to stop the bleeding ?