

Grammar in Levels

Adapted from: <https://www.grammarinlevels.com/> and <https://www.robinsoncrusoeinlevels.com/>

To be

Lesson 1

Affirmatives

I **am**

You **are**

We **are**

He/she/it **is**

You **are**

They **are**

Negatives

I **am** not

You **are** not

We **are** not

He **is** not

You **are** not

They **are** not

Question

Am I?

Are you?

Are we?

Is he?

Are you?

Are they?

These are forms of the verb **to be** in the present. We use the verb **to be** in the present in about 25% of sentences in spoken English.

Examples

My name **is** Robinson. I **am** from England. I **am** eighteen years old. My father **is** German. My mother **is** English. We **are** a good family.

ROBINSON CRUSOE – CHAPTER 1 – FAMILY

My name is Robinson. I am from England. I am eighteen years old. My father is German. My mother is English. I have two brothers. I have one sister. We are a good family.

My father is a good businessman. We have money. I have a good school. I have a good life. But I have a **dream**. I **want to travel**. I want to **see the world**.

My father is a good man. He wants the **best** for me. But my dream is not his dream. He is not happy. The **situation** is not **easy**.

It is **morning**. My father is in his **room**. He wants to **speak** with me. I go to his room. My father has some questions. My father wants to **know why** I want to travel.

My father says, "Travelling is **dangerous**. Travelling is not **comfortable**. You **can die**."

I **think** about it. Travelling is dangerous. It is not comfortable. I can die. But it is **also very interesting**. I can see new **countries**. I can **meet** new **people**.

I think about travelling **every** day. **Maybe** my mother can **help** me.

I speak with my mother. I **tell** my mother, "I want to travel. I want to see the world. Please, speak with my father. Maybe with your help, I can travel."

My mother **loves** me. But she thinks **that** travelling is dangerous. She thinks that my **place** is at home. She thinks that life in England is the **best** for me.

One year **later**, I **visit** one big **town**. The **name** of this town is Hull.

I meet my friend. His father has a **ship**. They travel to London. My friend tells me, "**Go** with me."

I think about it. I am not **prepared**. But I can **try if** travelling is for me.

I go to London. I am very happy. It is my **first** long **journey**. It is very interesting. The first **hour** is good. But **then** we have **problems**. We see a **storm**. The storm is big. The **wind** is **strong**. The ship goes **up** and **down**. I have **fear**. I think about my home. I think about my comfortable bed.

The storm is **finished** in the morning. The **weather** is **nice**. And the **evening** is **beautiful**. **Everything** is **quiet**.

One man **comes** to me. We speak. We speak about the storm. I speak about my fear. The man **gives** me a **drink**. I drink very **much**. I **sleep** very **well** at **night**.

The **next** day, I **forget** about my home. I forget about my comfortable bed. I dream **more** about travelling.

Present simple

Lesson 2

Affirmative

I **work**

We **work**

You **work**

You **work**

He/she/it **works**

They **work**

Negatives

I **don't work**

We **don't work**

You **don't work**

You **don't work**

He **doesn't work**

They **don't work**

Question

Do I work?

Do we work?

Do you work?

Do you work?

Does he work?

Do they work?

The name of this grammar is the **present simple**. We use the **present simple** when we speak about things which happen in our lives.

We use the **present simple** in about 30% of sentences in spoken English.

Examples

I **travel** to Africa. I **do** business in Africa. I **have** a lot of money. I **want** to do more business. I **go** to Africa again.

ROBINSON CRUSOE – CHAPTER 2 – STORM

The next day, **our** ship is **slow because** the wind is not strong.

Then the wind is strong **again**. We go **fast**. A new storm comes. This storm is **bigger**.

I am **scared**. The men are scared **too**. The **waves** are very big. The waves are **like mountains**. I see **other** ships. The ships are like **toys**. The waves **play** with the ships. I want to go home again.

The storm is very big. The men **ask** God for help.

Then, one man sees a **hole** in the ship. Water is **inside**. It is a **bad** situation.

Many men go down. They **pump** the water **out**. I am very scared. I **can't move**. One man comes to me. He says, "Go down and help." **So** I go down. We pump the water out.

I hear a **gun**. It is a **signal** from our **captain**. It is a signal that we have a big problem. Our ship is very **broken**. Our ship is **full** of water.

We **work** very **hard**. We pump the water out. But the hole is very big. More and more water is inside the ship.

The weather is **better**. The waves are **smaller**. But the ship is full of water. We **need** help. We see **another** ship before our ship. The men from the ship **send** a small **boat**. The men on the boat go to our ship. The men help **us**. We go on **their** boat.

Fifteen **minutes** later, our big ship goes under water. We are **safe** on the small boat. We see a **land**. We go to the land.

We see people on the **beach**. They **wait** for us. They help us. They give us **some** money. We can go to London or Hull. I go to London.

When I am in London, I meet a captain. The captain goes to Africa. I think that I can **make** some money **there**.

The captain tells me about the business in Africa. He tells me **what** to **buy** in England. He tells me what people in Africa need.

The journey to Africa is very good. I have **a lot of** money **after** this journey. I am happy. I want to travel more. I want to **do** more business. I want to **learn** how to **control** the ship. The captain **teaches** me how to control the ship.

I go to Africa again. The journey starts **well**. But **soon** we have big problems. We see a ship. It is not an English ship. It is a **pirate** ship. The pirates want to **take** our ship. Their ship is fast. Soon, they are **near** our ship.

The pirates **attack** us. Many pirates go on our ship. They **kill** our men. We can't **win**. We stop the **fight**. Now, we are **prisoners**.

Can

Lesson 3

Affirmative

I **can**

We **can**

You **can**

You **can**

He/she/it **can**

They **can**

Negatives

I **can't**

We **can't**

You **can't**

You **can't**

He **can't**

They **can't**

Question

Can I?

Can we?

Can you?

Can you?

Can he?

Can they?

The verb **can** is a modal verb. We use **can** with other verbs. For example, **I can go. You can go. He can play.**

We use **can** in about 8% of sentences in spoken English.

Examples

I **can** see new countries. I **can** meet new people. I **can** do more business.

ROBINSON CRUSOE – CHAPTER 3 – WOMAN

I am **young** and **strong**. I **must** work as a **slave**. I work for the **captain** of the pirates. I **feel** very **sad**. I have a **bad** life. I must work hard.

I work every day. I work in the house. I work in the **garden**. The captain **tells** me what to do.

I don't like my work. I want to **change** my situation. I want to be **free** again.

It is morning. I meet a young woman. She works in the house. She is so beautiful. She is also a slave. She **cleans** the house.

I speak with **her**. She doesn't speak my language. **But I feel** that she **understands** me.

When she sees me, she is happy. And I am happy too.

Sometimes she **touches** me. But it is **only** a **short** moment. Slaves can't be **together**.

I think about the young woman very **often**. I want to meet her every day. But she is not in the house every day. When I think about her, I have a nice **feeling** in my body. I think that I love this woman. I think that she is my **girlfriend** and I am her **boyfriend**. But our love is **complicated**. We can't **live** together. It is very sad.

Sometimes I **fish** with the captain or his friends. A young boy helps us. We **use** a small boat **when** we fish.

One morning, when we fish, we are **lost**. **Fog** is **around** our boat. We see **nothing**. We can't go home.

The next day, the fog is **away**. We can go home.

When we are **back** home, the captain says, "**Use** a bigger boat."

The bigger boat is better for long journeys.

One day, the captain tells me, "**Put** more food and drinks on the boat. **Bring** some guns too."

The captain wants to fish with his friends.

I **prepare** the boat. I put food and guns on the ship. But the captain's friends don't want to fish.

Then, the captain tells me, "Prepare the boat for **usual fishing** for the **next** day."

This is my **chance**. I can **run** away. A lot of food and guns are on the boat. I prepare the boat for fishing. But I **leave** the food and guns on the boat. Tomorrow, I can run away. This is my **plan**.

I think about the young woman. I want to take her with me. But I don't know how to do it. It is not **possible** to take her on the boat. I am sad. I don't know what to do. I want to be free. But my **heart** wants to be with her.

It is the morning. I meet the young woman in the house. She is so beautiful.

I **look** at her. She knows that **something** is **different**. Maybe she understands that this is our **last** moment together. She looks in my **eyes**. She touches my hand. I think that she understands.

Her **face** is sad. My face is sad too. She smiles at me. Then, she goes away. This is our last moment together.