



# Empty “It”

Grammar > Beginner 3



# Exercise 1 – Learning

## Non-Human Subject Pronoun 'It'

We have studied 'it' as a way to refer to a non-human subject pronoun. **It** replaces something that has been mentioned before or is implied from the context:

*There is a village nearby. The village is very beautiful. → There is a village nearby. **It's** very beautiful.*

## Empty 'It'

Sometimes, the word 'it' is a '**dummy subject**' or an '**empty it**'. It does not refer to anything, but is needed in the sentence for grammatical reasons. We use an 'empty it' to do the following:

### 1. Talk about the Weather

- **It** is sunny today.
- **It** snows now.
- **It** is hot in Mexico.



## 2. Say a Time or Date

- What time is **it**?
- **It** is five o'clock.
- **It** is my birthday next week. My family is coming to celebrate.

## 3. Give an Opinion about a Place

- **It's** cold in here, can you turn on the heating?
- **It's** nice here.

## 4. Identify People

- Look, **it's** Lisa!
- Hi, **it's** Peter!



## Exercise 2 – Ordering

*Put the words into the correct order.*

**Example:** It's cold too this in room! → It's too cold in this room!

### Content:

1. What is time it?
2. It's o'clock seven in morning the.
3. It's today sunny.
4. it Is Monday tomorrow?
5. thirty three It's.
6. cold very It's here in.
7. cloudy it Is outside?
8. snowing It's outside.



## Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

*Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.*

**Example:** my birthday today. → It's my birthday today.

### Content:

1. too early.
2. only 7 in the morning.
3. too cold outside.
4. too hot outside.
5. snowing.
6. Hi, is David.