

GRAMMAR

Negation with *not*

LEVEL

Beginner

NUMBER

EN_A1_1093G

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can make negative sentences with 'not' and 'to be'.
- I can confidently contract 'not' and 'to be' in speech and writing.



It **isn't** snowing today! It **doesn't** snow in summer! It's warm and sunny today.





Using *not* with *to be*

- We use **not** with **to be** to make it negative.

positive

I **am** cold.

He / She / It **is** cold.

You / We / They **are** cold.

negative

I am **not** cold.

He / She / It is **not** cold.

You / We / They are **not** cold.



It's not and it isn't

- We can use different contractions with **to be** and **not**.

am/is/are not	isn't/aren't	'm/'s/'re not
I am not cold.	...	I'm not cold.
He / She / It is not cold.	He / She / It isn't cold.	He's / She's / It's not cold.
You / We / They are not cold.	You / We / They aren't cold.	You're / We're / They're not cold.



Is the sentence positive or negative?

		positive	negative
1	I'm hot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	I'm not hot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	It's not snowing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	It's raining.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	We aren't cold.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Match the contractions

1 I am not cold.

2 You are not cold.

3 It is not cold.

4 She is not cold.

5 We are not cold.

6 It is not snowing.

7 It is not winter.

a It isn't cold.

b It isn't winter.

c I'm not cold.

d We aren't cold.

e It's not snowing.

f You're not cold.

g She's not cold.

Practise saying contractions

You're not
cold.

You aren't
cold.

It's not cold.

It isn't cold.



Using *not* with *to do*

- We use **not** with **to do** to make other verbs negative.

positive	negative
I / You / We / They ride a bike.	I / You / We / They do not ride a bike.
He / She rides a bike.	He / She does not ride a bike.
It snows in winter.	It does not snow in winter.



Don't and doesn't

- We use contractions with **to do** and **not**.

do/does not

I / You / We / They **do not** ride a bike.

He / She **does not** ride a bike.

It **does not** snow in winter.

don't/doesn't

I / You / We / They **don't** ride a bike.

He / She **doesn't** ride a bike.

It **doesn't** snow in winter.

Is it positive or negative?

positive

negative



It doesn't snow
in SA.



He's cold.



It's snowing.



They aren't
hot.



It isn't raining.



I'm not cold.



You don't run.



He surfs.



To be or to do?

1 It _____ snowing.

a. am not

b. isn't

c. aren't

d. don't

2 It _____ snow in summer.

a. don't

b. isn't

c. doesn't

d. aren't

3 We _____ swim in the ocean.

a. aren't

b. isn't

c. doesn't

d. don't

4 You _____ cold.

a. aren't

b. doesn't

c. don't

d. isn't



I **don't** wear a coat in summer because it **isn't** cold.

In spoken and/or informal English, we often use **contractions** with *be* or *do* + *not*. We **don't** say the words in full.

In formal written English, we **don't** use these contractions. It **isn't** the same in informal English.



Practise saying contractions

I don't swim in
the ocean.

It doesn't
snow in Cape
Town.

You don't ride
a bike.

She doesn't
take the
subway.

Make negative sentences

1

He is here.



He isn't here.

2

I am hot.



3

It is raining.



4

You ride a bike.



5

She swims in the ocean.





Describe what is happening in the pictures

You can do this activity in **breakout rooms**.





Find out more!

Ask your teacher or classmates questions to find out what they do and what the weather is like.



Do you swim?

Do you play tennis?

Is it snowing?



End of the lesson

Idiom

To not take no for an answer

Meaning: to insist that someone does something

Example: I didn't really want to come to this film, but my friend wouldn't take no for an answer!

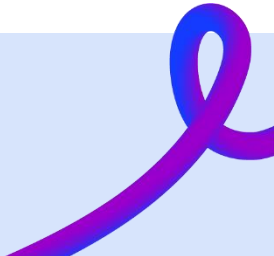


Additional practice



Complete the table

I am not _____	...	I'm not
	you aren't	you're not
he/she/it is not	_____	he's/she's/it's not
we are not	we aren't	_____
they are not	_____	they're not
_____	I don't	...
you do not	_____	...
he/she/it does not	_____	...
_____	we/they don't	...





Matching

Fill in the gaps with **don't** or **doesn't** and match the questions to the answers.

1 Do you have any brothers or sisters?

2 Do your children like winter?

3 Does your brother live in the city?

4 Do you like sunny weather?

5 Does your dog like rainy weather?

a No, they _____ like winter.

b No, my dog _____ like rainy weather.

c Yes, I love sunny weather!

d No, I _____ have brothers or sisters.

e No, he _____ live in the city. He lives in a village.



Asking questions

Ask and answer the questions on **p.21** with your partner. Use **contractions** in your answers.





Order the words to make negative sentences

1

brother doesn't dogs My like



My brother doesn't like dogs.

2

cold aren't We



3

They live Spain don't in



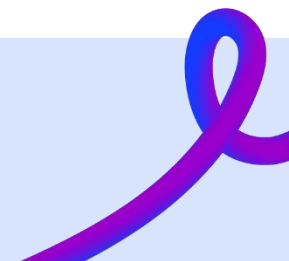
4

isn't She here.



5

not It's snowing





Answer key

Exercise p. 6

1. positive 2. negative 3. negative 4. positive 5. negative

Exercise p. 7

1c, 2f, 3a, 4g, 5d, 6e, 7b

Exercise p. 11

Positive: He's cold., It's snowing., He surfs.

Negative: It doesn't snow in Cape Town., They aren't hot., It isn't raining., I'm not cold., You don't run.

Exercise p. 12

1. isn't, 2. doesn't, 3. don't, 4. aren't

Exercise p. 14

2. I'm not hot., 3. It isn't raining., 4. You don't ride a bike., 5. She doesn't swim in the ocean.



Answer key

Exercise P.21

you are not, he/she/it isn't, we're not, they aren't, I do not, you don't, he/she/it doesn't, we/they do not

Exercise P.22

1. d, don't – 2. a, don't – 3. e, doesn't – 4. c – 5. b, doesn't

Exercise P.25

2. We aren't cold. – 3. They don't live in Spain. – 4. She isn't here. – 5. It's not snowing.



Summary

Using **not** with **to be**:

- We use **not** with **to be** to make it negative.
- We use contractions with **to be** and **not**.
- *I'm not... He isn't...*

Using **not** with **to do**:

- We use **not** with **to do** to make other verbs negative.
- We use contractions with **to do** and **not**
- *I don't... He doesn't...*



Vocabulary

negation

negative

positive

contraction

formal

informal

