

LANGUAGE FOCUS REFERENCE • STARTER UNIT



he

Af firmative		Negative /	
Full form	Short form	Full form	Short form
lam	ľm	I am not	I'm not
He / She / It is	He / She / It's	He/She/It is not	He / She / It isn't
You / We / They are	You / We / They're	You / We / They are not	You / We / They aren't

We can't leave subject pronouns out of a sentence.

It's a good idea. Is a good idea.

In spoken and informal written English, we use short forms.

Questions	Short answers	
Am I happy? Is he / she / it happy? Are you / we / they happy?	Affirmative Yes, I am. Yes, he / she / it is. Yes, you / we / they are.	Negative No, I'm not. No, he / she / it isn't. No, you / we / they aren't.

We use short forms in negative (but not affirmative) short answers.

'Is she Turkish?' 'No, she isn't.' 'Yes, she's.'
Question words go before the verb be.

Where are they from? They are from where? Usage

We use the verb *be* to give and ask about personal information.

I'm Esin and I'm thirteen. Are you from Prague?

Possessive adjectives, possessive pronouns

Subject pronouns	Possessive adjectives	Possessive pronouns
I he / she / it	my his / her / its	mine his / hers / its
you/we/they	your/our/their	yours / ours / theirs

Possessive adjectives

Usage

Possessive adjectives show that something belongs to a person.

That is Harry's bag. That is his bag.

Possessive pronouns

Usage

We use possessive pronouns in place of a full noun phrase to avoid repeating words.

Whose car is this? Is it yours? Is it your car?

Articles

Usage

We use a / an to talk about something for the first time. There's a book on the table.

We use *the* when we mention something again. The book is about history.

We use zero articles to talk about things in general. I like books.

have got

Affirmative	Negative	
I've got a pen.	I haven't got a pen.	
He's / She's / It's got	He / She / It hasn't got a	
a pen.	pen.	
You've / We've / They've	You / We / They haven't got	
got a pen.	a pen.	

In spoken and informal written English, we use short forms.

Questions	Short answers	
Have I got a pen? Has he / she / it got a pen? Have you / we / they got a pen?	Affirmative Yes, I have. Yes, he / she / it has. Yes, you / we / they have.	Negative No, I haven't. No, he / she / it hasn't. No, you / we / they haven't.

We make short answers with *have*, but without *got*.

Yes, I have. Yes, I have got.

Usage

We use *have got* to talk about possession, family relationships and things that we need to do.

I've got a history book. They've got a maths exam.

there's, there are

	Singular	Plural
Affirmative	There's a computer lab.	There are two new students.
Negative	There isn't a sports field.	There aren't any new boys.
Questions	Is there an exam on Thursday?	Are there any new teachers?

In spoken and informal written English, we use short forms. However, there is no short form of *there are*.

There are notes in the notebook. There're notes in the notebook.

Usage

We use *there's / there are* to say what we know does or doesn't exist. We also use it to say what we can or can't see.

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