

THE PRESENT TENSE OF THE VERB *TO BE* (CONTINUED)

Making affirmative statements with the verb *to be*

Take a look at these sentences.

Larry **is** at the park. He **is** with Nick.

Helen **is** American. She **is** from California.

Now compare these sentences. Notice how we form the contraction of **he is** and **she is**.

He **is** with Nick.



with Nick.

She **is** from California.



from California.

Look at these sentences, and notice that **is** can also form a contraction with other words.

Sandra's my sister. She's here on vacation.

That's Paul Simmons. He's the new football coach.

Now look at this dialogue. Notice that Tony says **this is**. We never form a contraction with **this** and **is**.

Tony: Alice, **this is** my friend, Ed. (**NOT** "Alice, **this's** my friend, Ed.")

Alice: Hi, Ed.

Making negative statements with the verb *to be*

Look at these transformations.

He **is** from France. → AFFIRMATIVE

He **is not** from France. → NEGATIVE

She **is** in the kitchen. → AFFIRMATIVE

She **is not** in the kitchen. → NEGATIVE

Now compare these sentences. Notice the possible contractions.

He **is** not French.

She **is** not well today.

He's not French.

She's not well today.

He **is not** French.

She **is not** well today.

He **isn't** French.

She **isn't** well today.

Asking questions with the verb *to be*

Look at these transformations.

He **is** here on vacation. → AFFIRMATIVE

Is he here on vacation? → QUESTION

She **is** at the park. → AFFIRMATIVE

Is she at the park? → QUESTION



TO SUM IT UP:

THE PRESENT TENSE OF THE VERB *TO BE*

		AFFIRMATIVE		NEGATIVE			INTERROGATIVE
		FULL FORM	CONTRACTED FORM	FULL FORM	CONTRACTED FORM		
S I N G U L A R	FIRST PERSON	I am	I'm	I am not	I'm not		Am I . . . ?
	SECOND PERSON	You are	You're	You are not	You're not		Are you . . . ?
	THIRD PERSON	He is She is It is	He's She's It's	He is not She is not It is not	He's not She's not It's not	He isn't She isn't It isn't	Is he . . . ? Is she . . . ? Is it . . . ?

Compare these dialogues. Notice when we use contractions with the verb **to be**.

"Are you new in town?"

"Yes, I am." (NOT "Yes, I'm.")

"Yes, I am/'m new in town."

"No, I am not/'m not."

"No, I am not/'m not new in town."

"Is your sister home?"

"Yeah, she is." (NOT "Yeah, she's.")

"Yeah, she is/she's here."

"No, she is not/she's not/she isn't."

"No, she is not/she's not/she isn't here."

"Is that a football?"

"Yes, it is." (NOT "Yes, it's.")

"Yes, it is/it's a football."

"No, it is not/it's not/it isn't."

"No, it is not/it's not/it isn't a football."



IV. Select the option with the correct forms of the verb TO BE (AM, ARE, or IS) to complete the sentences.

1. "_____ that Bob Taylor?"
"No, that _____ Tony Doyle. He _____ new in town."

a. Is – am – am c. Is – 's – 's
b. Am – is – are d. Are – are – 're



2. "_____ she all right?"
"No, she _____."

a. Are – is c. Is – isn't
b. Is – am not d. Is – is

3. "This _____ Toby, my new dog."
"Oh, he _____ so cute!"

a. 's – is c. am – is
b. are – 's not d. is – 's



4. "_____ it (the perfume) French?"
"Yes, it _____."

a. Is – 's c. Is – 's not
b. Is – is d. Am – are

5. "_____ you Rebecca Smith?"
"Yes, I _____. Thank you."

a. Are – am c. Are – are
b. Am – is d. Are – isn't



The exercises are to be done and corrected in class.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS — *ANYTHING* AND *NOTHING*

Look at these statements with **anything** and **nothing**. Both statements have a negative meaning. Notice that:

- **ANYTHING** is used in negative statements when the verb is in the *negative* form.
- **NOTHING** is used in negative statements when the verb is in the *affirmative* form.



"There *isn't* **anything** here I like."

or

"There's **nothing** here I like."



REMEMBER THIS:

ANYTHING

NOTHING

NEGATIVE



I. Write the sentences another way using *anything* or *nothing*, as in the examples. Use contractions when possible.

Examples:

There isn't anything I like at this restaurant.

There's nothing I like at this restaurant.

Elizabeth *has nothing* cool to wear to the party.

Elizabeth doesn't have anything cool to wear to the party.

1. *There's nothing* in my size at this store.

_____ in my size at this store.

2. Mr. Black needs to write a message, but he *doesn't have anything* to write with.

Mr. Black needs to write a message, but he
_____ to write with.

3. *There isn't anything* in my closet that fits me really well.

_____ in my closet that fits me really well.

4. My sister speaks Italian, but she *knows nothing* about Italy.

My sister speaks Italian, but she _____ about Italy.

5. *There isn't anything* I can recommend at this restaurant.

_____ I can recommend at this restaurant.