

Be: Present and Past

UNIT

1

Present of *Be*: Statements

SPORTS

UNIT

2

Present of *Be*: Questions

SCHOOL

UNIT

3

Past of *Be*

A FIRST DAY

OUTCOMES

- Use the verb *be* in simple present statements
- Recognize details in a short description
- Recognize important information in a conversation about people
- Talk about sports and famous athletes
- Write sentences about a classmate

OUTCOMES

- Ask and answer *yes/no* and *wh-* questions in the simple present
- Answer questions about details in a conversation
- Recognize main ideas and details in a conversation about two people
- Ask questions about a person and a place
- Write a list of questions about a place

OUTCOMES

- Use the verb *be* in the simple past
- Ask and answer questions about the past with *was/were*
- Correct false statements from an article
- Recognize detailed information in phone messages
- Talk about the weather
- Talk about the first day of school
- Write a paragraph about your first day of school

Present of *Be*: Statements

SPORTS

OUTCOMES

- Use the verb *be* in simple present statements
- Recognize details in a short description
- Recognize important information in a conversation about people
- Talk about sports and famous athletes
- Write sentences about a classmate

STEP 1

GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

BEFORE YOU READ

Look at the photos. Work with a partner. Answer the questions.

1. What are three popular sports in your country?
2. What's your favorite sport?

MOST POPULAR SPORTS IN THE WORLD



Basketball



Cricket



Ice hockey



Soccer



Tennis

READ

▶01|01 Read this article about Ana and soccer.

Ana and Soccer

Hi, I'm Ana Silva. I'm from São Paulo, Brazil. I'm a soccer fan. Soccer **is** the number-one sport in my country. It's the number-one sport in the world. It **is** popular in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, and North America. But the name "soccer" **is not** popular all over the world. Only people in the

United States and Canada call the sport “soccer.” People in the rest of the world call it “football.”

This **is** a photo of me with my cousins Julia and Marco. They **are** with me at a soccer game. Julia **is** in the middle. She **'s** a student at the University of São Paulo. Marco **is** in high school. He **'s** in his last year. We **are** all soccer fans. We **'re** athletes, too. I **'m** a soccer player, but Julia and Marco **are not**. They **'re** tennis players. But we all love soccer. Of course we love soccer—we **are** Brazilians!



AFTER YOU READ

A VOCABULARY Complete the sentences. Circle the correct answers.

- Ronaldo is her favorite soccer player. His photo is on her wall. She's a fan / student of Ronaldo.
- That hockey team is new. It's only / over two years old.
- All the students in our school like hockey. It is a popular / bad sport here in Canada.
- Ahmed is good at all sports. He's a very good athlete / friend.
- This is a photo of my friends and me. Jon is on the left. Natalie is on the right. I'm in the world / in the middle.
- Ten of my classmates love sports. The rest of / The name of my classmates are not interested in sports.

B COMPREHENSION Read the statements. Check (✓) *True* or *False*.

- | | True | False |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. In the photo, Ana is with her brother and sister. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Ana is from Brazil. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Brazil is in São Paulo. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Football is the number-one sport in Brazil. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Julia and Marco aren't soccer players. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Ana and her cousins aren't soccer fans. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C DISCUSSION Work with a partner. Compare your answers in B. Then say two things about Ana and her cousins and two things about soccer.

PRESENT OF *BE*: STATEMENTS

Affirmative Statements

Singular		
Subject	Be	
I	am	a student.
You	are	
Mike	is	
He		
Carrie She		
Hockey		a sport.
It		

Plural		
Subject	Be	
Marco and I We	are	cousins.
You and Julie You		
Ivona and Boris They		
Seoul and Tripoli		cities.
They		

Negative Statements

Singular		
Subject	Be + not	
I	am not	from Istanbul.
You	are not	
He	is not	
She	is not	
It	is not	new.

Plural		
Subject	Be + not	
We	are not	in Seoul.
You	are not	
They	are not	

Contractions

Affirmative Contractions		
I am	→	I'm
you are	→	you're
he is	→	he's
she is	→	she's
it is	→	it's
we are	→	we're
you are	→	you're
they are	→	they're

Negative Contractions

I am not	→	I'm not	we are not	→	we're not	we aren't	
you are not	→	you're not	you aren't	you are not	→	you're not	you aren't
he is not	→	he's not	he isn't	they are not	→	they're not	they aren't
she is not	→	she's not	she isn't				
it is not	→	it's not	it isn't				

GRAMMAR NOTES

1 Present Forms of Be

The present of *be* has three forms: *am*, *is*, and *are*.

- *am*
- *is*
- *are*

I **am** a student.
He **is** from São Paulo.
They **are** athletes.

2 Negative Statements

Use *not* after a form of *be* to make a negative statement.

- *am not*
- *is not*
- *are not*

I **am not** from Turkey.
Seattle **is not** in Canada.
We **are not** hockey players.

3 Contractions

Use **contractions** (short forms) in speaking and informal writing.

I'm from Mexico. I'm not from Ecuador.
She's from Morocco. She isn't from Egypt.
They're from Brazil. They aren't from Argentina.

There are two negative contractions for *is not*.

It's not difficult. It isn't difficult.

There are two negative contractions for *are not*.

We're not single. We aren't single.

BE CAREFUL! There is only one negative contraction for *am not*.

I'm not from Ecuador.
~~NOT I amn't~~ from Ecuador.

4 Subjects and Verbs

All sentences have a **subject** and a **verb**.

SUBJECT	VERB	
I	am	from São Paulo.
Julia	is	a soccer fan.
My cousin and I	are	soccer fans.

BE CAREFUL! You cannot make a sentence without a subject. You cannot make a sentence without a verb.

Julia **is** a soccer fan.
~~NOT is a soccer fan.~~ (No subject)
~~NOT Julia a soccer fan.~~ (No verb)

5 Subjects, Nouns, and Subject Pronouns

The **subject** is a **noun** or a **pronoun**. Subject pronouns replace subject nouns.

SUBJECT NOUN	Marco Silva is a student.
SUBJECT PRONOUN	He is from São Paulo.

BE CAREFUL! You cannot put a subject pronoun right after a subject noun.

Marco **is** from São Paulo.
~~NOT Marco he~~ is from São Paulo.

EXERCISE 1 DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

GRAMMAR NOTES 1–3 Read the paragraph. Underline the forms of *be*.

Mourad is from Casablanca. It's the largest city in Morocco. Mourad is a big soccer fan. He isn't a soccer player, but he loves the game. His sister and two brothers are soccer players. They're all excited about the World Cup.

**EXERCISE 2 AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS**

GRAMMAR NOTE 1 Complete the sentences with *am*, *is*, or *are*.

- Soccer is popular all over the world.
- Football _____ popular in the United States and Canada.
- Football and soccer _____ different sports.
- Aaron Rodgers and Lionel Messi _____ great athletes.
- Aaron Rodgers _____ a great football player.
- Lionel Messi _____ a great soccer player.
- I _____ a football fan. I love football.
- My cousins and I _____ soccer fans. We love soccer.



EXERCISE 3 AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

GRAMMAR NOTES 1-3 Complete the paragraphs with affirmative or negative forms of *am, is, or are*. More than one answer is sometimes possible.

Parminder Nagra is a talented actor.
1.
She and Keira Knightley _____ the stars of
2.
the 2002 movie *Bend It Like Beckham*. It _____
3.
a comedy. In the movie, Parminder _____ a
4.
young Indian girl in England. She _____ a
5.
good soccer player, and she loves soccer. But her
parents _____ traditional. They
6.
_____ happy. They do not want her to play
7. (not)
soccer. They say, "Soccer _____ for girls.
8. (not)
Marriage _____ for girls. Look at your sister.
9.
Your sister _____ a soccer player, and she
10. (not)
_____ about to marry." Parminder says, "I
11.
_____ my sister."
12. (not)



EXERCISE 4 SUBJECT PRONOUNS AND AFFIRMATIVE CONTRACTIONS

GRAMMAR NOTES 3, 5 Change the underlined words to pronouns and contractions of *be*.

1. Cricket is popular in India. Cricket is the number-one sport there.
It's
2. Mr. Patel is a cricket fan. Mr. Patel is a soccer fan, too.
3. Soccer is a great sport. Soccer is popular all over the world.
4. My partner and I are on a soccer team.
5. Ms. Cameron is an English teacher. Ms. Cameron is a basketball coach, too.
6. Basketball and baseball are great sports. Basketball and baseball are exciting games.
7. My favorite sport is basketball. Basketball is fun to watch.
8. My cousin and I are at a basketball game in this photo. My cousin and I are in the middle of the row.

EXERCISE 5 AFFIRMATIVE OR NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

GRAMMAR NOTES 1-4 Write true sentences with the correct simple present forms of *be*.

1. I 'm or 'm not a tennis player.
2. My mother _____ a baseball fan.
3. My father _____ a soccer fan.
4. Soccer _____ popular in my country.
5. Soccer _____ popular all over the world.
6. My friends and I _____ cricket fans.
7. Tennis and ping-pong _____ my favorite sports.
8. I _____ a good tennis player.
9. I _____ a good cricket player.
10. My parents _____ good athletes.

EXERCISE 6 EDITING

GRAMMAR NOTES 1-5 Read the sentences about a soccer movie. There are seven mistakes. The first mistake is already corrected. Find and correct six more.

1. "The Beautiful Game"^{is} a movie about soccer.
2. It a documentary.
3. Soccer players from all over Africa in the movie.
4. One boy he is good at soccer.
5. The boy goes to the United States. His parents is happy and unhappy.
6. His mother says, "I'm happy. His future good."
7. She says, "I unhappy. He isn't near us."

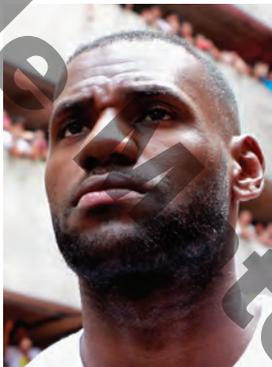
EXERCISE 7 LISTENING

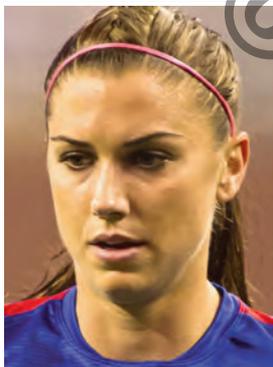
01|02

A Study the chart. Then listen to a conversation about athletes. Write the sport and country of origin for each of these famous athletes. Use the words in the boxes.

Sport: baseball basketball golf soccer tennis

Country: Argentina Brazil Japan Portugal Romania United States

Name				
	LeBron James	Lionel Messi	Cristiano Ronaldo	Masahiro Tanaka
	Sport	Basketball		
Country	United States			

Name				
	Michelle Wie	Alex Morgan	Marta Vieira da Silva	Simona Halep
	Sport			
Country				

01|02

B Listen again and check your answers in A.

C Work in pairs. Use the information in the chart in A to talk about the athletes.

EXAMPLE: **A:** LeBron James is a basketball player from the United States.

B: Lionel Messi is . . .

EXERCISE 8 TRUE OR FALSE?

A GAME Prepare for the game in B. Complete the sentences. Write three true sentences and one false sentence.

1. a. My favorite athlete is _____.
- b. He/She is _____.
2. a. My cousin and I are _____.
- b. We are _____.

B Work in a group. Read your sentences to the group. The group guesses the false sentence. Take turns.

EXAMPLE: **A:** My favorite athlete is Serena Williams. She's from South Africa. My cousin and I are tennis players. We are tennis fans, too.

B: Serena Williams isn't from South Africa.

A: That's right. She's from the United States.

EXERCISE 9 PING-PONG IS BORING!

A DISCUSSION Prepare for the discussion in B. Complete the chart with one or more words about each sport. Use the words in the box or your own ideas.

boring dangerous exciting fun interesting popular in my country relaxing

					
ping-pong	volleyball	running	swimming	skateboarding	snowboarding
Fun					

B Work in a group. Talk about each sport in A.

EXAMPLE: **A:** Ping-pong is fun.

B: I agree. It's exciting, too.

C: I'm not a big ping-pong fan. I think it's boring.

A: OK. Volleyball is next. So, what do you think?

C Tell the class three things you agree on.

EXAMPLE: We agree on three things. First, ... Second, we think that ... Third, ...

FROM GRAMMAR TO WRITING

A BEFORE YOU WRITE Look at the chart. Complete the “You” column. Then work with a partner. Talk about yourself. Then listen and take notes about your partner.

	Example	You	Your Partner
Name	<i>Tom Cummins</i> <i>Nickname: Tommy</i>		
City, Country	<i>Toronto, Canada</i>		
A sport in your country	<i>Hockey: very popular in Canada</i>		
Your family and this sport	<i>My two brothers: hockey players and hockey fans</i>		
You and sports	<i>Not a hockey player, not a big hockey fan</i> <i>My favorite sport: snowboarding</i>		

B WRITE Write eight sentences about your partner. Use your notes in A. Use the verb *be* in every sentence.

EXAMPLE: My partner’s name is Tom Cummins.
His nickname is Tommy...

C CHECK YOUR WORK Read your sentences in B. Underline all examples of the verb *be*. Use the Editing Checklist to check your work.

Editing Checklist

Did you...?

- use *am* with *I*, *is* with *he/she/it*, and *are* with *you/we/they*
- a subject and verb in every statement

D REVISE YOUR WORK Read your sentences again. Can you improve your writing? Make changes if necessary.

UNIT 1 REVIEW

Test yourself on the grammar of the unit.

A Complete the sentences with *am*, *is*, or *are*.

1. My brother and I _____ baseball fans.
2. Our favorite sport _____ baseball.
3. I _____ a good baseball player.
4. My brother _____ a good baseball player, too.
5. We _____ athletes.

B Complete the sentences with *'m*, *'s*, or *'re*.

1. I _____ from Korea.
2. She _____ from Brazil.
3. We _____ basketball fans.
4. He _____ a good basketball player.
5. We _____ from Ohio, and LeBron James is from Ohio, too.

C Rewrite the sentences. Change the underlined words to pronouns and contractions of *be*.

1. Lionel Messi is not in Argentina now. _____
2. Soccer and baseball are exciting sports. _____
3. My partner and I are not baseball fans. _____
4. Ms. Nagra is the star of a movie. _____

D Correct the paragraph. There are six mistakes.

My father and mother are from India, but they're in Canada now. My parents are doctors. My father a sports doctor, and my mother she is a family doctor. My parents and I love sports. My father are a soccer fan, and my mother a baseball fan. I'm a soccer fan. My father and I am fans of Lionel Messi and Nuno Gomes. My sister no is good at sports. She's not a sports fan. She loves movies.

Now check your answers on page 445.