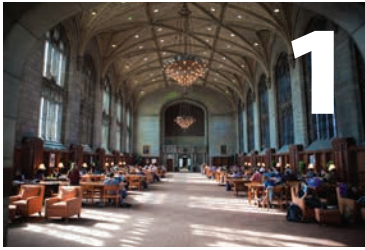


NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
LEARNING

CENGAGE
Learning

SIXTH EDITION
GRAMMAR 1
IN CONTEXT

SANDRA N. ELBAUM

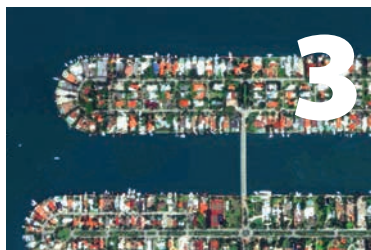


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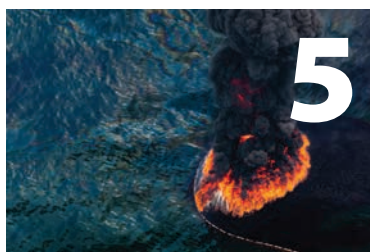


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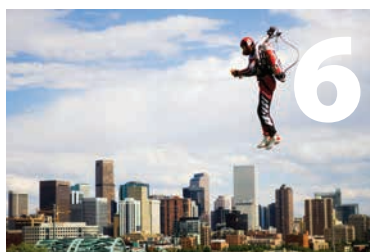
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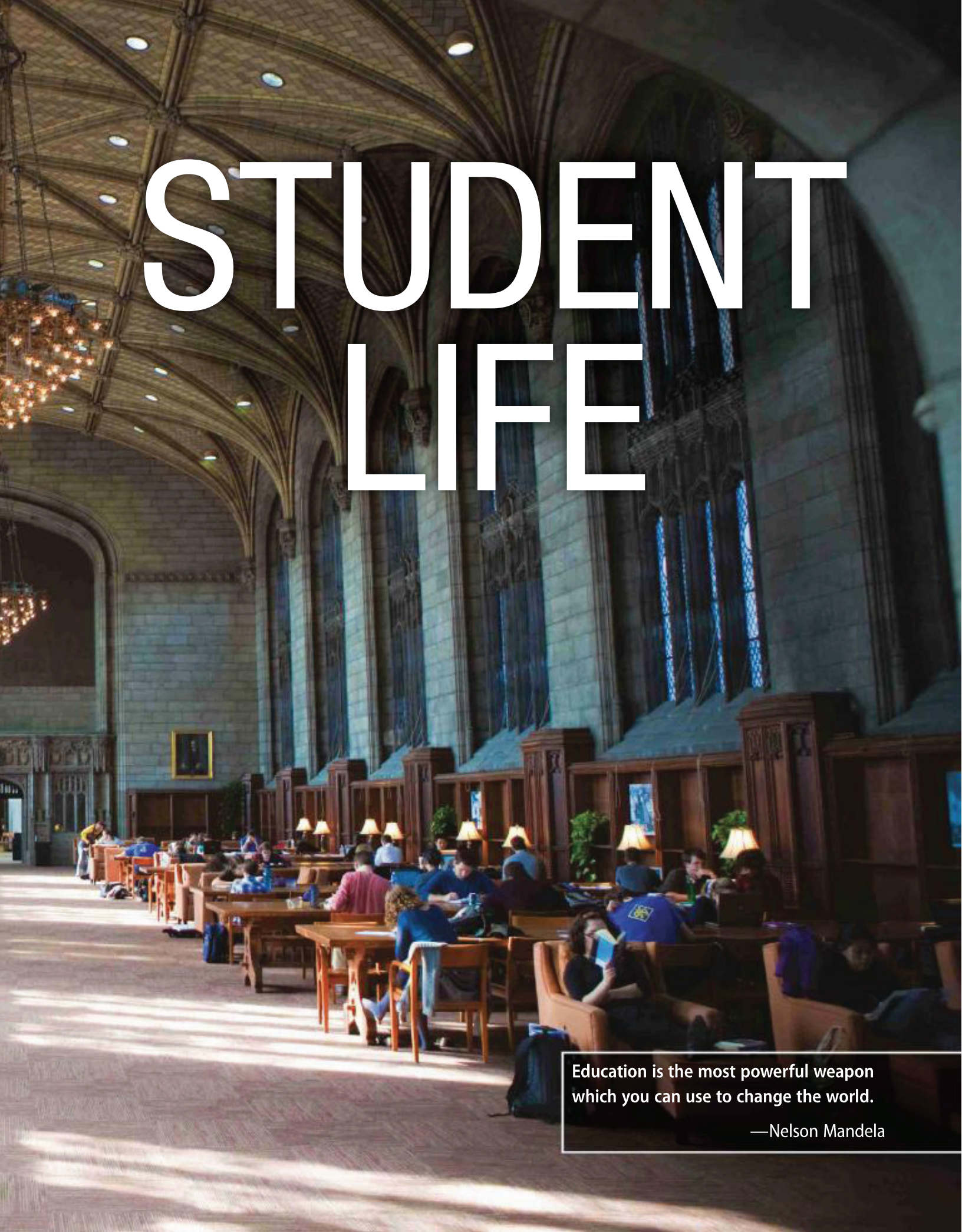
LESSON

1

Be: Present



Library at the University
of Chicago, Illinois



STUDENT LIFE

Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world.

—Nelson Mandela

Truman College



CD 1
TR 2

Read the following article. Pay special attention to the words in bold.

Truman College **is** a community college. It **is** in Chicago, Illinois. It **is** one of the seven city colleges of Chicago. Truman students **are** from 160 different countries and 90 different language groups. About half the students **are** Latino. ESL classes **are** very popular at Truman College. About half the students **are** in ESL classes.

The college **is** convenient¹ for students because it **is** near public transportation—buses and trains. For students with a car, parking **is** free. Professors **are** usually friendly. Classes **are** small. (In universities some classes **are** very large.)

Adult education classes **are** free. College credit classes **are** not free. Most of the students **are** residents² of the city. Tuition³ for city residents **is**

low. Some of the students **are** international students. Tuition **is** high for these students.

A typical class **is** very interesting. There **are** young students, older students, married students, students with children, full-time students, and part-time students.

Truman **is** very proud⁴ of its nursing program. It **is** the oldest and most successful nursing program in Illinois. Truman **is** also proud of its biotechnology program. It **is** the only one in the state of Illinois.

¹ *convenient*: easy to get to

² *resident*: a person who lives in a particular area

³ *tuition*: the cost of going to college

⁴ *proud*: pleased because you have or did something good

COMPREHENSION CHECK Based on the reading, tell if the statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. The nursing program at Truman College is very successful.
2. Classes at Truman College are very large.
3. About 160 students are in ESL classes at Truman College.

1.1 Be—Present Forms

The verb *be* has three forms in the present: *am*, *is*, and *are*.

Subject	Form of <i>Be</i>	
I	am	a professor.
My teacher	is	American.
She		from Chicago.
My professor		excellent.
He		from the Philippines.
The college		convenient.
It		near public transportation.
We		are
You	a good teacher.	
The professors	friendly.	
They	nice.	

Language Notes:

1. The subject is a noun (*professor, college, etc.*) or a pronoun (*I, you, he, she, it, we, they*).
2. We begin sentences with the subject.

The **teacher is intelligent**. (NOT: *Is intelligent the teacher.*)



EXERCISE 1 Listen to a student talking about his classes. Fill in the blanks with the words you hear.

My name is ^{1.} Rolando Lopez. I am ^{2.} from Guatemala.
 I am ^{3.} a student at Truman College. My major is ^{4.}
 engineering. My engineering classes are ^{5.} at night, and my English class
is ^{6.} on Saturdays. I am ^{7.} married. My wife, Susana,
is ^{8.} a student here, too. Susana is ^{9.} in the nursing program.
 Susana's classes are ^{10.} in the morning. Our children are ^{11.} in
 school in the day, and Susana is ^{12.} home with them in the evening.
 The teachers here are ^{13.} friendly and helpful. The students in my ESL class

continued

_____ from nine different countries. Some students _____ in
 14. 15.
 their forties, fifties, or sixties. Some students _____ in their twenties. I
 16.
 _____ in the middle. I _____ 35 years old.
 17. 18.
 I _____ happy to be in the United States. I _____ unhappy
 19. 20.
 about one thing: Chicago _____ cold in the winter.
 21.

1.2 Be—Uses

Examples	Explanation
Evening classes are convenient . The tuition is low .	We use a form of <i>be</i> with a description of the subject.
Chicago is a city . Illinois is a state .	We use a form of <i>be</i> with a classification or definition of the subject.
Truman College is in Chicago . The college is near public transportation .	We use a form of <i>be</i> with the location of the subject.
I am from Guatemala . My wife is from Mexico .	We use a form of <i>be</i> with the place of origin of the subject.
Rolando is 35 years old .	We use a form of <i>be</i> with the age of the subject.
It is cold in Chicago in the winter.	We use <i>is</i> with weather. The subject for weather is <i>it</i> .
It is 6 o'clock now.	We use <i>is</i> with time. The subject for time is <i>it</i> .

EXERCISE 2 Fill in the blanks with a form of *be*.

- My name _____ *is* _____ Rolando Lopez.
- I _____ from Guatemala.
- My wife _____ from Guatemala, too.
- My wife and I _____ students.
- Truman College _____ a two-year college.
- My classmates _____ from nine different countries.
- We _____ immigrants.
- You _____ interested in nursing.
- My major _____ engineering.
- It _____ warm in Guatemala all year.
- My native language _____ Spanish.

EXERCISE 3 Match each subject with the correct phrase. Then write a sentence using each subject and phrase with the correct form of *be*.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Trains and buses <u> d </u> | a. a state university. |
| 2. The University of Illinois _____ | b. the cost of college courses. |
| 3. Some adult education classes _____ | c. from many different countries. |
| 4. Truman College students _____ | d. forms of transportation. |
| 5. Tuition _____ | e. an ESL student. |
| 6. I _____ | f. hot in Guatemala in the summer. |
| 7. Truman College _____ | g. the language of Mexico. |
| 8. Rolando and Susana Lopez _____ | h. from Guatemala. |
| 9. Spanish _____ | i. a community college. |
| 10. It _____ | j. free. |

1. Trains and buses are forms of transportation.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

EXERCISE 4 Fill in the blanks to make true statements.

1. My classroom is on the second floor.
location
2. Chicago and Los Angeles are _____.
classification
3. The school is in _____.
location
4. The teacher is about _____ years old.
age
5. The teacher is from _____.
place

continued

6. It is _____ now.
time
7. It is _____ today.
weather
8. My school is _____.
description

1.3 Subject Pronouns and Nouns

Examples	Explanation
You are a good student. I am in the United States. It is Monday.	The subject pronouns are <i>I, you, he, she, it, we,</i> and <i>they</i> .
Chicago is very big. It is in Illinois. My wife is a student. She is from Mexico. My parents are in Guatemala. They are happy.	Subject pronouns (<i>it, she, they</i>) can take the place of subject nouns (<i>Chicago, wife, parents</i>).
My classmates are from many countries. They are immigrants. English and math are my favorite subjects. They are useful subjects.	We use <i>they</i> for plural people and things.
You are a good teacher. You are good students.	<i>You</i> can be a singular or plural subject pronoun.
My wife and I are in the United States. We are in Chicago.	When the subject is another person and <i>I</i> , we put the other person before <i>I</i> .

Language Note:

In conversation, you sometimes hear “me and my wife” in the subject position. This is common but incorrect.

EXERCISE 5 Fill in the blanks with the correct subject pronoun.

- Nicaragua and Guatemala are countries. They are in Central America.
- My wife and I are students. _____ are students at Truman College.
- Guatemala is a small country. _____ is south of Mexico.
- _____ is warm in Guatemala all year.
- Some students are international students. _____ are from China, Japan, and Spain.
- _____ am an ESL student.
- English is a useful language. _____ is necessary in the United States.
- Adult classes at my college are free. _____ are for ESL students.

9. My book is new. _____ is *Grammar in Context*.
10. I am a student. _____ are the teacher.
11. My teacher is a nice woman. _____ is from Boston.
12. My classmates and I are interested in American life. _____ are new here.

EXERCISE 6 Put the words in the correct order to make a statement. Use a capital letter at the beginning and a period at the end.

1. a two-year college/my college/is

My college is a two-year college.

2. am/I/a student

3. my parents/in Guatemala/are

4. high/is/tuition at a four-year college

5. is/convenient for me/my college

6. my teacher/is/40 years old

7. is/from New York/my teacher

8. eight weeks long/the summer semester/is

9. Rolando/married/is

10. cold/it/is/in the winter

EXERCISE 8 Complete the paragraph with the correct forms of *be*. Use contractions when possible.

OK, class. It ^{'s} 1. time to begin. You 2. all here now.
My name 3. Peter Lang. Call me Peter. English 4. my
native language. I 5. happy to be your teacher. Here 6. a
paper with information about the school, the class, and the textbook. The
information 7. on my class website, too. My office 8. on
the second floor, Room 2030. The textbook for the course 9. *Grammar in*
Context. The bookstore 10. on Broadway Avenue. The
address 11. 4545 North Broadway.

EXERCISE 9 Complete the paragraph with the correct forms of *be*. Use contractions when possible.

I ^{'m} 1. a student of English at Truman College. I 2.
happy in the United States. My teacher 3. American.
His name 4. Charles Madison. Charles 5. a good teacher.
He 6. patient with foreign students.
My class 7. big. All the students 8. immigrants, but
we 9. from different countries. Five students 10. from
Asia. One woman 11. from Poland. She 12. from Warsaw,
the capital of Poland. Many students 13. from Mexico.
We 14. ready to learn English, but English 15. a hard
language for me.

1.5 Be with Descriptions

Examples				Explanation
Subject	Be	Very	Adjective	
My teacher	is	very	kind.	After a form of <i>be</i> , we can use a word that describes the subject. Descriptive words are adjectives. <i>Very</i> can come before an adjective.
The desks	are		small.	
The college	is		interesting.	
I	am		tired.	
I'm thirsty . We're afraid .				We use a form of <i>be</i> with physical or mental conditions: <i>hungry, thirsty, cold, hot, tired, happy, afraid</i> , etc.

Language Note:

Some adjectives end with *-ed* or *-ing*:

married, divorced, worried, tired, crowded, confused, interested, bored, confusing, interesting, boring

EXERCISE 10 **About You** Fill in the blanks with a singular or plural subject and the correct form of *be* to make sentences about your school. Use contractions when possible. Then compare your answers with a partner.

1. _____ *My teachers are* _____ intelligent.
2. _____ expensive.
3. _____ cheap.
4. _____ new.
5. _____ big.
6. _____ friendly.
7. _____ hard.
8. _____ interesting.

EXERCISE 11 Find a partner. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of *be*. Add an adjective to describe each subject.

1. The classroom *is clean* _____.
2. The college _____.
3. The school library _____.
4. The school cafeteria _____.
5. The textbook for the course _____.

6. The parking lot _____.
7. The tuition at the school _____.
8. American students _____.
9. Schools in the United States _____.
10. Students in the United States _____.

1.6 Be with Definitions and Classifications

Singular Subject	Be	A/An	Adjective	Singular Noun
Harvard	is	a		university.
I	am	an	international	student.
You	are	a	great	teacher.
Guatemala	is	a	small	country.
Plural Subject	Be		Adjective	Plural Noun
You and I	are		new	students.
They	are		good	friends.

Language Notes:

1. We use the articles *a* and *an* for singular nouns. We don't use *a* or *an* for plural nouns.
2. We use *a* before a consonant sound. We use *an* before a vowel sound. The vowels are *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, and *u*.
3. We use *a* when a beginning *u* is not a vowel sound.
English is **a useful** language.

EXERCISE 12 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of *be*. Add *a* or *an* when necessary.

1. Nursing and technology _____ *are* _____ popular college programs.
2. The University of Illinois _____ state university.
3. It _____ old university.
4. Chicago _____ interesting city.
5. Truman College and Washington College _____ city colleges of Chicago.
6. You _____ teacher.
7. I _____ immigrant.
8. Some students _____ international students.
9. My dictionary _____ useful book.

EXERCISE 13 Find a partner. Fill in the blanks to make true statements about your college or school. Use the correct form of *be* and *a* or *an* when necessary.

1. _____ *Math 101 is an* _____ easy course.
2. _____ hard courses.
3. _____ useful website.
4. _____ heavy book.
5. _____ noisy places.
6. _____ quiet place.
7. _____ American teachers.
8. _____ good students.
9. _____ crowded place.

1.7 Negative Statements with *Be*

Examples	Explanation
I am not married. Rolando is not from Mexico. We are not Americans.	We put <i>not</i> after a form of <i>be</i> to make a negative statement.

Contractions in Negative Statements with *Be*

	Contraction with subject pronoun and <i>be</i>	Contraction with <i>be</i> and <i>not</i>
I am not	I'm not	—
you are not	you're not	you aren't
he is not	he's not	he isn't
she is not	she's not	she isn't
it is not	it's not	it isn't
we are not	we're not	we aren't
they are not	they're not	they aren't

Language Notes:

1. We cannot make a contraction with *am + not*. (NOT: I *amn't*)
2. We can make contractions with most nouns:
Rolando is not Mexican. = Rolando's not Mexican. = Rolando isn't Mexican.
3. Remember: We cannot make a contraction with certain words + *is*. (See Chart 1.4.)
English is not my native language. = English isn't my native language. (NOT: *English's not*)

EXERCISE 14 Fill in the blanks with a subject pronoun and a negative form of *be*. Use both ways of making contractions when possible.

1. The classroom is clean and big.

_____ *It isn't* _____ dirty. _____ *It's not* _____ small.

2. We're in the classroom.

_____ in the library. _____ in the cafeteria.

3. Today's a weekday.

_____ Saturday. _____ Sunday.

4. I'm a student.

_____ a teacher.

5. The students are busy.

_____ lazy. _____ tired.

6. You're on time.

_____ early. _____ late.

7. My classmates and I are in an English class.

_____ in the cafeteria. _____ in the library.

EXERCISE 15 **About You** Write if the statement is true (T) or false (F). If it's false, make the statement negative and write a true statement. Use pronouns and contractions. Share your answers with a partner.

1. Today is the first day of class. _____ *F* _____

_____ *Today's not the first day of class. It's the third day of class.* _____

2. All of the students in this class are immigrants. _____

3. I'm an immigrant. _____

4. I'm married. _____

5. The school is convenient for me. _____

continued

6. My parents are proud of me. _____

7. The parking lot is free here. _____

8. The school is near public transportation. _____

9. The semester is eight weeks long. _____

10. Spanish is my native language. _____



Public School FAQs



Read the following questions and answers about education in the United States.
Pay special attention to the words in bold.

Are you interested in American education? **Are** you confused about some things?
Here **are** some frequently asked questions (FAQs):

- Q:** **Is** education in the United States free?
A: Yes, it **is**. It's free in public schools.
- Q:** **Are** all children in public schools?
A: No, they **aren't**. Eighty-eight percent of children **are** in public schools. Nine percent **are** in private schools.
- Q:** What about the other three percent?
A: Three percent **are** homeschooled. The parents **are** the child's teachers.
- Q:** How many months a year **are** students in school?
A: They're in school for ten months a year.
- Q:** What's a freshman?
A: A freshman **is** a student in the first year of high school or college. A sophomore **is** a student in the second year. A junior **is** a student in the third year. A senior **is** a student in the fourth year.
- Q:** How many years **are** students in school?
A: Most students **are** in school for twelve years. It depends on the state.
- Q:** **Are** rules different from state to state?
A: Yes, they **are**.

The chart below shows the different possibilities for a twelve-year education in the United States.

8 years elementary school
4 years high school

6 years elementary school
2 years middle school
4 years high school

6 years elementary school
3 years middle school
3 years high school

COMPREHENSION CHECK Based on the reading, tell if the statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Middle school is always three years in the United States.
2. All students in the United States are in public schools.
3. A freshman is a first-year student in high school or college.

1.8 Yes/No Questions and Short Answers with *Be*

Statement	Yes/No Question	Short Answer
I am a student.	Am I a good student?	Yes, you are.
You are in college.	Are you at a state university?	No, I'm not.
He is a teacher.	Is he a good teacher?	Yes, he is.
She is in high school.	Is she a junior?	No, she isn't.
It is June.	Is it vacation time?	Yes, it is.
We are in high school.	Are we freshmen?	Yes, we are.
They are students.	Are they in public school?	No, they aren't.
Education is free in public schools.	Is education free in college?	No, it isn't.

Language Notes:

1. We use a contraction for a short *no* answer. We don't use a contraction for a short *yes* answer.

Is the school open on December 25? No, **it isn't**.

Is a C a passing grade? Yes, **it is**. (NOT: Yes, *it's*.)

2. We use a pronoun in a short answer.

Is Rolando a freshman? Yes, **he** is.

EXERCISE 16 Complete the conversation between two students. Use contractions when possible.

A: Hi. My name ^{1.} _____ Hector. I _____ new here. _{2.}

B: Hi. My name _____ Eduardo. _{3.}

A: I'm from Mexico. _____ from Mexico, too? _{4.}

B: No, _____ . I'm from Brazil. _{5.}

A: I'm a sophomore. _____ a sophomore, too? _{6.}

B: Yes, _____ . _{7.}

A: _____ in the same ESL class? _{8.}

B: Yes, we _____ . _{9.}

A: _____ the teacher American? _{10.}

B: No, _____ . She's Canadian. _{11.}

A: _____ time for class now?
12.

B: Yes, it _____ . _____ almost 10 o'clock. Let's go.
13. 14.

EXERCISE 17 Find a partner. Ask and answer *yes/no* questions about your school and this class. Use the words given and the correct form of *be*. Use contractions in your answers when possible.

- the school / big
A: *Is the school big?*
B: *Yes, it is.*
- it / near public transportation
- the cafeteria / on the first floor
- it / open now
- the library / closed now
- the course / free
- the textbooks / free
- the teacher / American
- the classroom / clean
- it / big
- you / a freshman

1.9 Wh- Questions with Be

Statement	Wh- Question
I am late.	How late am I ?
You are from South America.	What country are you from?
He is a teacher.	Who is he ?
She is a freshman.	Where is she a freshman?
It is late.	What time is it ?
We are lost.	Where are we ?
They are here once a week.	When are they here?
The teacher isn't here today.	Why isn't the teacher here today?

Language Notes:

- We can make a contraction with a *wh-* word + *is*: *who's, what's, when's, where's, how's, why's*.
- After *what*, we can use a noun:
what kind, what nationality, what country, what time
- How* can ask about health or an opinion.
How are you? I'm fine.
How is your English class? It's hard.
- After *how*, we can use an adjective or an adverb:
how long, how hard, how old, how big, how much, how many

EXERCISE 18 Complete the conversation between two students. Use contractions when possible.

A: You're in my math class, right?

B: Yes, I am. What's your name?
1.

A: Ricardo Gomez.

B: Nice to meet you. I'm Maya Levina.

A: _____ your English teacher?
2.

B: Peter Lang.

A: He's my teacher, too! Are we in the same class?

B: _____ your class?
3.

A: It's on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

B: My class is on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.

A: _____ nationality is Mr. Lang?
4.

B: He's Canadian, I think. I'm from Russia. _____ you from?
5.

A: I'm from Costa Rica.

B: _____ Costa Rica?
6.

A: It's in Central America.

B: _____ your native language?
7.

A: It's Spanish. Mr. Lang speaks Spanish, too.

B: Mr. Lang isn't here today.

A: _____ here today? Is he sick?
8.

B: No, he isn't. His daughter is in a play.

A: How old _____ ?
9.

B: She's six years old.

EXERCISE 19 Choose the correct word(s) to complete the phone conversation between a student in the United States (A) and his brother back home (B).

A: Hello?

B: Hi, Sayed. It's Ali. How are you?

A: I'm fine.

B: Where (are you/you are) now?
1.

A: I'm in my dorm. (Are you/You are) at home?
2.

B: Yes, (I am/I'm). It's 4:15 p.m. here. (What time is it/What time it is) there?
3. 4.

A: It's 1:15 a.m. here. It's late but I'm not tired.

B: Why (aren't you/you aren't) tired?
5.

A: I'm nervous about my test tomorrow.

B: (How's/What's) college life in the United States? (It is/Is it) very different from here?
6. 7.

A: Yes, (is it/it is). My new classmates are so interesting. (They're/Are they) from many countries
8. 9.
and are all ages. One man in my class is very old.

B: (How old is he/How is he old)?
10.

A: He's 75.

B: Really? (Where he is/Where's he) from?
11.

A: Korea. (Where are Mom and Dad/Where Mom and Dad are) now?
12.

B: At work. (They're/They) worried about you.
13.

A: Why (they are/are they) worried about me?
14.

B: Because you're alone in the United States.

A: (It's/Is) not a problem for me. I'm on the dean's list.
15.

B: (What's/Who's) the dean's list?
16.

A: It's a list of students with high grades.

B: (I'm/I) proud of you.
17.

EXERCISE 20 About You Fill in the blanks to make true statements. Then use the words given to write questions. Use contractions when possible.

1. I'm from Bosnia .
where Where are you from?
2. My name is _____ .
what _____
3. I'm from _____ .
where _____
4. The president/prime minister of my country is _____ .
who _____
5. The flag from my country is _____ .
what color _____
6. My country is in _____ .
where _____
7. I'm _____ feet, _____ inches tall.
how tall _____
8. My birthday is in _____ .
when _____
9. My favorite subject in school is _____ .
what _____
10. It's _____ in my hometown.
what time _____

Find a partner (from a different country, if possible). Ask and answer your questions.

A: *I'm from Bosnia. Where are you from?*

B: *I'm from Taiwan.*

EXERCISE 21 Complete the phone conversation between two friends.

A: Hello?

B: Hi, Cindy. This is Maria.

A: Hi, Maria. How are you 1. ?

B: I'm fine.

A: 2. your first day of class?

B: Yes, it 3. . I'm at school now, but I'm not in class.

A: Why 4. in class?

B: Because it's break time now.

A: How 5. the break?

B: It's 10 minutes long.

A: How 6. ?

B: My English class is great. My classmates are very interesting.

A: Where 7. from?

B: They're from all over the world.

A: 8. your teacher American?

B: Yes, she 9. . She's from California. 10. ?

A: It's 3:35.

B: Oh, I'm late.

A: Let's get together soon. 11. free this weekend?

B: Yes, I am. I'm free on Saturday afternoon.

A: I have a class on Saturday.









B: When 12. free?

A: On Sunday afternoon.

B: Sunday's fine, after 1 o'clock. Talk to you later.

1.10 Prepositions of Place

We use prepositions to show location and origin.

Preposition	Examples	
on	The book is on the table. The cafeteria is on the first floor.	
at	I am at school. My brother is at home. My parents are at work.	
in	The students are in the classroom. The wastebasket is in the corner.	
in front of	The chalkboard is in front of the students.	
in back of/behind	The teacher is in back of the desk. The chalkboard is behind the teacher.	
between	The empty desk is between the students.	
over/above	The exit sign is over the door. The clock is above the exit sign.	
below/under	The green textbook is below the desk. The red dictionary is under the textbook.	
by/near/close to	The pencil sharpener is by the window. The pencil sharpener is near the window. The pencil sharpener is close to the window.	