

# Writing Bright

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E. J. Lewis



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## **Writing Bright 1**

E. J. Lewis

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## **This book is designed to help students**

- **build on & activate their grammar skills**  
: through a review of essential grammar points in connection with basic sentence writing practice
- **develop & improve their sentence writing skills**  
: through extensive sentence writing activities
- **get ready to write short paragraphs**  
: through various theme-based paragraph writing activities
- **enhance vocabulary**  
: by introducing a wide range of vocabulary and derivations
- **acquire a wealth of subject-related knowledge**  
: by providing exposure to a variety of topics in science, history, geography, language arts, and social studies

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## Writing Bright 3

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# Unit ★ 1

Be: Simple Present

## I am Zoe

I **am** Zoe.

My sister's name **is** Sue.

We **are** 12-year-old twins.

Jim **is** my brother.

He **is** 14 years old.

Mr. White **is** my father.

He **is** a writer.

Mrs. White **is** my mother.

She **is** a teacher.

Our house **is** on a quiet street.

There **is** a beautiful garden in front of the house.

There **are** many flowers in the garden.

Grandma **is** in the garden every day.



# : Grammar for Writing

## 1 Be: Simple Present—basic

- My father **is a writer**. (*be* + noun)
- My father **is busy**. (*be* + adjective)
- My father **is in the room**. (*be* + prepositional phrase)

- ➡ <*Be*: simple present> is the most basic verb type in English sentences.
- ➡ After ***be***, you can use a noun/pronoun, an adjective, or a prepositional phrase.

## 2 Noun/ Pronoun subject + *be*

- **Mrs. White is** my mother. **She is** a teacher.
- **Flowers are** in the garden. **They are** beautiful.

- ➡ Both nouns and pronouns can be subjects in a sentence.

## 3 Be: Negative & Yes/No Questions

- He **is not** an artist.
- **Is he** a writer? Yes, he is.
- They **are not** tulips.
- **Are they** roses? Yes, they are.

- ➡ Negative:  
<Subject + *be* + not>
- ➡ Questions:  
<*Be* + subject>

## 4 There is/are

- **There is** a nice picture **on the wall**.
- **There are** many people **in the room**.
- **There is not** a key **on the table**.

- ➡ We use ***there is / are*** to say that something exists in a certain place.
- ➡ ***There is / are*** is usually used with prepositional phrases: ***in the room, on the table***.



# Tips for Better Sentences

## Connecting words with *and*

- She is **nice**. She is **friendly**.  
→ She is **nice and friendly**.
- ➔ We can join two adjectives after the verb *be* using *and*. This makes two short, choppy sentences into one longer, better sentence.

## Modifying nouns with adjectives

- He is **a teacher**.  
→ He is **a great teacher**.
- There is **a tree** in the garden.  
→ There is **a tall tree** in the garden.
- ➔ We can modify a noun with an adjective and make a sentence more interesting.



# Common Mistakes

## Subject - verb agreement

- John and Mary **is** nice people. (x) → John and Mary **are** nice people. (✓)
- Bill and I **am** school friends. (x) → Bill and I ( ) school friends.
- There **is** many trees in the park. (x) → There ( ) many trees in the park.
- The toys in the box **is** my brother's. (x) → The toys in the box ( ) my brother's.

## Short forms

- **His** not a student. (x) → **He's** not a student. (✓)
- **Its** a pen. (x) **Its'** a pen. (x) → ( ) a pen.

## Sentence structure

- **It is** a puppy on the mat. (x) → **There is** a puppy on the mat. (✓)
- **They are** puppies on the mat. (x) → ( ) puppies on the mat.