2025/08/13 09:02 1/5 To be

To be



James is a teacher.

The affirmative form

The affirmative form: subject + 'to be'

I am

You are

He is

She is

It is

They are

We are

They are

Nationality I am Canadian. Name She is Erica.

Age He is 35.

Job She is an architect.

Description It is beautiful.

Location They are in London.

The negative form

The negative form: subject + 'to be' + not

I am not

You are not

He is not

She is not

It is not

We are not

They are not



I am a sales assistant. I am not a customer.



He is a doctor. He is not a pharmacist.



It is France. It is not Italy.



They are in Paris. They are not in London.

The interrogative form

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2025/08/13 09:02 3/5 To be

The Interrogative form: 'to be' + subject

Am I?

Are you?

Is he?

Is she?

Is it?

Are you?

Are we?

Are they?



Am I on time?



Is she at work?



Is it interesting?



Are they in Paris?

The contracted form



Hello. I'm Tony.

Replace the first letter of am, are and is with an apostrophe.

Full form Contracted form

I am I'm
You are You're
He is He's

She is She's It is It's We're They are They're

Use the contracted form when speaking and in informal writing. Use the full form in formal writing.

Examples

I'm American.
You're a manager.
He's a doctor.
She's at work.
It's interesting.
We're French.
They're in Paris.

The negative form



I'm American. I'm not Canadian.

Construction

The contracted form of 'to be' in the negative:

subject + contracted form of 'to be' + not You're not

or

subject + 'to be' with contracted form of not You aren't

Note: I'm not

✓ I amn't

Contracted form 1 Contracted form 2

I'm not
You're not
You aren't
He's not
She's not
It's not
We're not
We aren't
They're not
They aren't

2025/08/13 09:02 5/5 To be

Examples



He's a doctor. He isn't a pharmacist.



It's France. It isn't Italy.



We're French. We aren't Swiss.

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