

Using the Verb 'to be'

(present tense)

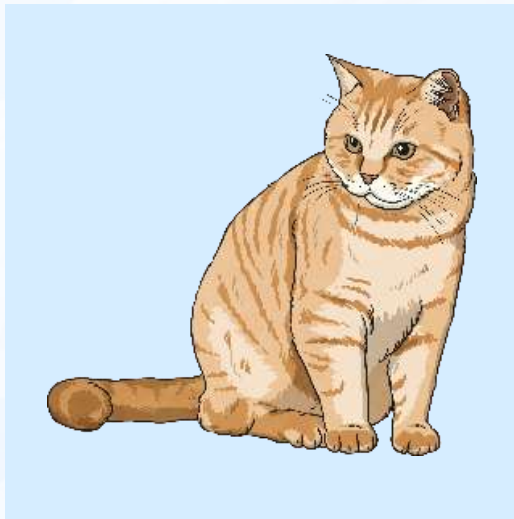


Find the verbs

Which words are the verbs in these sentences?



The children are happy.



The cat is ginger.



I am tired today.

These words (is, are and am) are all different forms of the verb **'to be'**.

Using the verb 'to be'

'**To be**' is one of the most commonly used verbs in the English language.

It is an **irregular verb** so you have to learn how to use it in its different forms.



to be

Where there is one subject (singular), the correct **use of 'to be' is...**

I am

I am upset about that.

You are

You are in a good mood.

He is

He is very gentle.

She is

She is special.

It is

It is a bright sunny day.

In the plural form, the correct use of 'to be' is...

We are

We are excited.

You are

You are all in deep trouble.

They are

They are open all day.

'Am', 'Is' or 'Are'?

Singular

You are

He is

She is

It is

Plural

We are

You are

They are

What can you say about the singular and plural versions of 'to be'?

Can you use the correct present form of 'to be' in these sentences?

Which words are the verbs in these sentences?



The squirrel is red.



The girls are best friends.



He is the World's greatest superhero.

These words (is, are and am) are all different forms of the verb 'to be'.

Sometimes the different forms of 'to be' can act as auxiliary verbs

Auxiliary verbs are 'helping verbs' that appear with another main verb in a sentence.

For example:

'are' is used as an auxiliary verb



They are going to the park.



'going' is the main verb



Can you use the correct present form of 'to be' in these sentences where they are used as auxiliary verbs?



Kayla and Jess are
running together.



Baxter is sleeping
soundly in his bed.

'Am', 'Is' or 'Are' Quiz



Can you spot the correct form of the verb 'to be' in these sentences?

Which sentence uses the present form of
'to be' correctly?

a) They is boring.

b) She is generous.

c) The girls am funny.

d) I are very hungry.

Which sentence uses the present form of
'to be' correctly?

a) She am rushing
to school.

b) It are a cold night.

c) He are laughing loudly.

d) The cricket team are
top of the league.

Which sentence uses the present form of
'to be' correctly?

a) My friend is
really funny.

b) We is late for school.

c) They is working
very hard.

d) I is going on holiday
to Florida.