



Learn English Through Stories

## Elementary Grammar

**Adopted and modified by  
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## **A Happy Day in the Park 2 by K S Sandhu**

Hello! My name's Banta. I'm from India. I'm Punjabi and I'm 27 years old. My family's big and nice.

My father's old. He's 70 years old. He's kind. My mother's a good cook. She's friendly. My sister's funny. She's 17 years old. My brother's tall. He's 21 years old. He's clever.

Today we're happy. Is it sunny? Yes, it is! The sun's hot. We're in the park. The park's beautiful. The trees are green. The flowers are red, yellow and pink. The sky's blue. Isn't it nice?

My friend Reeta's here. She's from Punjab too. She's a student. Her eyes are brown and her hair's brown. She's very friendly. We're good friends. Are we happy together? Yes, we are!

A tall man is in the park. He's from England. He's a teacher. He's nice. He says, "Hello! You're nice students. Are you good students?" We say, "Yes, we are!"

Now we're hungry. Is my mother here? Yes, she is! She's got food. It's chapati and sabzi. Is it good? Yes, it's very good! We're happy to eat. Aren't we lucky?

My dog's here too. His name's Moti. He's small. He's black and white. He isn't bad. He's a good dog. He's funny. He runs and plays. Is Moti happy? Yes, he is!

A little girl is near us. She's 10 years old. She's from Mexico. Her eyes are green. She's happy. She says, "I'm hot!" We laugh. It is hot today, isn't it?

In the evening, it's nine o'clock. Are we tired? Yes, we are, but we're happy. My family's together. My friends are here. We're all friends.

We're Punjabi. We're Indian. But today we're all happy in the park. Life's good!

Practice with 'to be' – negatives, questions and contractions:

How old are you? I'm not 30.

Are you a student? No, I'm not. Is he tall? Yes, he is. Isn't she funny? Yes, she is! Are they hungry? No, they aren't. How much is the food? It isn't expensive. What time is it? It isn't ten o'clock. It's nine o'clock.

Are you tired? No, I'm not tired. Are you happy? Yes, I am!  
Is the dog black? No, he isn't all black. He's black and white.  
Aren't the flowers pretty? Yes, they are!

# 2

## the verb to be (2)

### FORM

#### negative

I	<b>am not</b>	(I'm not)	
You		(You're not / You aren't)	
We	<b>are not</b>	(We're not / We aren't)	
They		(They're not / They aren't)	interested.
He		(He's not / He isn't)	
She	<b>is not</b>	(She's not / She isn't)	
It		(It's not / It isn't)	

#### questions

<b>Am</b>	I		
	you		
<b>Are</b>	we		
	they	late?	
	he		
<b>Is</b>	she		
	it		

#### short answers

Yes,	I	am.	No,	I'm not.
	you			you're not / you aren't.
Yes,	we	are.	No,	we're not / we aren't.
	they			they're not / they aren't.
	he			he's not / he isn't.
Yes,	she	is.	No,	she's not / she isn't.
	it			it's not / it isn't.

### USE

We can use the verb to be to ask about

- ages. *How old **are** you? **Is** he 16?*
- occupations. ***Are** you a student? No, I'm not.*
- prices. *How much **is** this? **Is** it expensive?*
- the time. ***Is** it ten o' clock? No, it **isn't**. It's eleven o' clock.*
- feelings and states. *I'm **not** tired. **Are** you tired?*
- nationality. *No, they're **not** Spanish, they're French. **Are** you English?*
- colours. *His eyes **aren't** green, they're blue.*

# Exercises

Includes material from Units 1 and 2.

**1** Complete the sentence with *is, is not, are, are not, am* or *am not*.

- a I am not Spanish, I'm Greek.
- b Peter ..... a good student. He's a bad one!
- c Our eyes ..... blue. They're brown.
- d My sister ..... a police officer, she's a journalist.
- e ..... his brother tall?
- f The bus ..... late, it's here now.
- g ..... you okay?
- h That film ..... very good. The story is very boring.
- i They ..... tired, they're hungry.
- j ..... it cold today?

**2** Write short answers to the questions.

- a Are you a good student? Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
- b Are your parents at home now? .....
- c Is it Monday today? .....
- d Are you hungry? .....
- e Are your friends with you now? .....
- f Is your school in a large city? .....
- g Is it cold outside? .....
- h Are you young? .....
- i Is English easy? .....
- j Are these exercises difficult? .....

**3** Correct the sentences.

- a ~~12.00~~ 14.00 ✓  
It's twelve o'clock. No, it isn't. It's two o'clock.
- b ~~16.00~~ 17.00 ✓  
It's four o'clock. ....
- c ~~Thursday~~ Friday ✓  
It's Thursday today. ....
- d ~~nurse~~ doctor ✓  
She's a nurse. ....
- e ~~doctor~~ engineer ✓  
He's a doctor. ....
- f ~~€50~~ €60 ✓  
The tickets are 50 euros. ....
- g ~~\$1.50~~ \$1.60 ✓  
It's one dollar, fifty. ....
- h ~~expensive~~ cheap ✓  
They're expensive. ....
- i ~~13~~ 14 ✓  
Julian is thirteen. ....

4 Use the prompts and *is, is not, are* or *are not* to write full sentences. The map will help you.



- a Berlin / Germany  
Berlin is in Germany.
- b Paris / France
- c Lyon / Spain
- d Milan and Turin / Italy
- e Brussels and Strasbourg / Germany
- f Spain / the south of Europe
- g Norway / the south of Europe
- h Lisbon / Portugal?
- i Bern and Basle / Switzerland?
- j you / Europe?

**5** Complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verb *to be*. Use short forms where possible.

DANIELA: Hello. **a** *Are* you from here?

ESTEVAN: No, we **b** ..... **c** ..... you?

DANIELA: No, I **d** ..... from Italy. My name **e** ..... Daniela.

ESTEVAN: Nice to meet you. I **f** ..... Estevan. And this **g** ..... Maite and Javier.

DANIELA: This **h** ..... Estelle, and this **i** ..... Maria. Where **j** ..... you from?

ESTEVAN: We **k** ..... from Spain.

DANIELA: **l** ..... you from Madrid?

ESTEVAN: No, we **m** ..... We **n** ..... from the north of Spain. Javier and I **o** ..... from Bilbao, and Maite **p** ..... from San Sebastian.

DANIELA: **q** ..... you here on holiday?

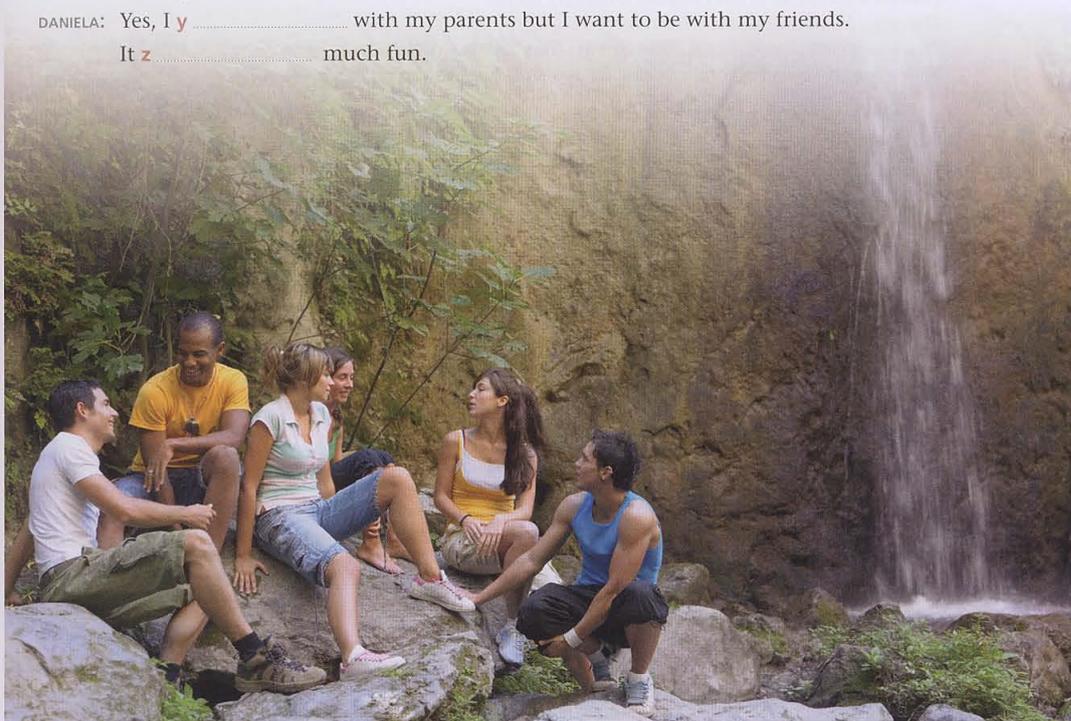
ESTEVAN: No, we **r** ..... It **s** ..... a study trip. This **t** ..... a beautiful place.

DANIELA: Yes, it **u** ..... **v** ..... the trip fun?

ESTEVAN: Some of it. The museums **w** ..... boring. **x** ..... you here for a holiday?

DANIELA: Yes, I **y** ..... with my parents but I want to be with my friends.

It **z** ..... much fun.



**EXTENSION ACTIVITY**

Translate these sentences into your own language.

- a My brother is six years old.
- b I am 13 years old.
- c A cup of coffee is €1.
- d Is your father a teacher?
- e We're not interested in computers.

# Answers

Includes material from Units 1 and 2.

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**Ex 5**

a Are   b aren't / 're not   c Are   d am / 'm   e is / 's  
f am / 'm   g is   h is   i is   j are   k are   l Are  
m aren't / 're not   n are   o are   p is   q Are  
r aren't / 're not   s is / 's   t is   u is   v Is   w are  
x Are   y am / 'm   z isn't / 's not