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The Good Grammar Book

WITH ANSWERS

A **NEW** grammar practice book for elementary to lower-intermediate students of English

OXFORD

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SECTION 1 *be and have*

● grammar summary

be (am/are/is/was/were)

- We can use **adjectives, nouns or expressions of place** after *be*.
She is late. I'm hungry. Are you a doctor? Is everybody here?
- We use a special structure with *be* – **there is** – to introduce things: to say that they exist.
There's a strange woman at the door. There are some letters for you.
- *Be* can be an **auxiliary verb** in progressive tenses (see page 21) and passives (see page 93).
She is working. It was made in Hong Kong.

have (have/has/had)

- We can use *have* or *have got* to talk about **possession, relationships and some other ideas**.
Do you have a car? I don't have any brothers or sisters. Ann has got a headache.
- And we can use *have* to talk about some kinds of **actions**.
I'm going to have a shower. What time do you have breakfast?
- *Have* can also be an **auxiliary verb** in perfect tenses (see Section 5).
I haven't seen her all day. We knew that he had taken the money.

● pre-test: which units do you need?

Try this small test. It will help you to decide which units you need. The answers are on page 283.

① Circle the correct answer.

- ▶ I am / are tired.
- 1 Mary *is* / *has* very happy today.
- 2 *Are* / *Have* / *Do* you hot?
- 3 *There is* / *It is* a new secretary in the office.
- 4 *Had* you / *Did* you *have* a good journey?

② Correct (✓) or not (X)?

- ▶ I don't had lunch today. ✗
- 1 I'm not ... I amn't ... he's not ... he isn't ...
- 2 I not had lunch today. ...
- 3 Do you got a car? ...
- 4 My friends was late. ...
- 5 I don't have many friends. ...

③ Make questions.

- ▶ The train was late. *... Was the train late? ...*
- 1 All the family will be at home.
- 2 There will be a meeting tomorrow.
- 3 Phil has got a headache.
- 4 Ann had a lesson yesterday.

*To be or not to be,
that is the question.*

(Shakespeare: Hamlet)

Is there life
before death?

(Seamus Heaney)

There's a thin man **inside every fat man.**

(George Orwell)

You can have it all,
but you can't do it all.

(Michelle Pfeiffer)

If you've got everything, you've got nothing.

(Leni MacShaw)

be I am happy today. Are we late?

+	I am you are he/she/it is we are they are
?	am I? are you? is he/she/it? are we? are they?
-	I am not you are not he/she/it is not we are not they are not

I am a doctor. Are you American? We are not ready.

1 Put in *am, are* or *is*.

- ▶ You are late.
- 1 We very well.
- 2 My sister a doctor.
- 3 John and Ann in America.
- 4 I happy today.
- 5 I think you tired.
- 6 Our house very small.

In conversation and informal writing, we use contractions:

I'm you're he's she's it's John's the train's we're they're

I'm a doctor. You're late. John's in London. The shop's open. We're ready.

2 Write these sentences with contractions.

- ▶ Ann is ill. Ann's ill.
- 1 We are all tired.
- 2 They are here.
- 3 I am sorry.
- 4 My name is Peter.
- 5 You are early.
- 6 The shop is closed.

To make questions (2) with *be*, we put the verb before the subject.

STATEMENT +: *I am late. The taxi is here. We are late. Your keys are in the car.*

QUESTION ? : *Am I late? Is the taxi here? Are we late? Are my keys in the car?*

3 Make questions.

- ▶ Bill / Scottish is Bill Scottish?
- 1 Marie / from Paris
- 2 We / very late
- 3 John / in bed
- 4 The boss / in Japan
- 5 His car / fast

Do you know all these question words?

who what when where why how

Contractions with *is*: *who's what's when's where's how's why's*

Who's that? What's this? When is the party? Where's the station? Why are we here?

How are you?

4 Put in question words with *are* or *'s*.

- ▶ 'Who's that?' 'It's my brother.'
- ▶ 'Where are Joe and Ann?' 'In London.'
- 1 '..... your name?' 'Maria.'
- 2 '..... my glasses?' 'Here.'
- 3 '..... your English teacher?' 'Mrs Allen.'
- 4 '..... you late?' 'My watch is broken.'
- 5 '..... the exam?' 'On Tuesday.'
- 6 '..... your mother?' 'Very well, thanks.'

To make negative (☐) sentences with *be*, we put *not* after *am/are/is* or *'m, 're, 's*.

I am not Scottish. We are not ready. I'm not tired. She's not here. They're not my friends.

We can also make contractions with *n't*: *you aren't, she isn't*, etc (BUT NOT *Iamn't*).

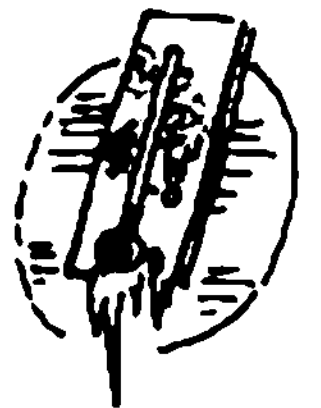
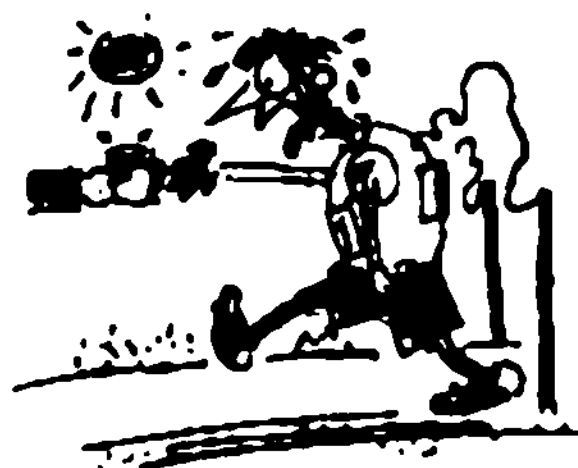
5 Write negative (☐) ends for the sentences.

- ▶ It's winter, but (☐ cold) *it isn't cold.*
- ▶ I'm Greek, but (☐ from Athens) *I'm not from Athens.*
- 1 She's tired, but (☐ ill)
- 2 They are in England, but (☐ in London)
- 3 You're tall, but (☐ too tall)
- 4 We are late, but (☐ very late)
- 5 It's summer, but (☐ hot)
- 6 I'm a student, but (☐ at university)

We often use *be* with: *hungry, thirsty, cold, hot, right, wrong, afraid, interested, what colour?, what size?*
And we use *be* with ages.

*Have you got anything to eat? I'm hungry. I'm cold. It's very hot here in summer.
'It's late.' 'You're right. Let's go.' Are you afraid of spiders? What colour is her hair?
What size are your shoes? 'How old are you?' 'I'm 17.' I'm interested in politics.*

6 Complete the sentences under the pictures.



- ▶ She is *hungry*. 1 He
- 2 She
- 3
- 4 It

7 Put in words from the box.

afraid ✓ colour interested right size

- ▶ He is a big man, but he is *afraid*..... of her.
- 1 You think I'm wrong, but I know I'm
- 2 What - small, medium or large?
- 3 What is your car?
- 4 Sorry, I'm not in her problems.

8 Read the text, and then write about yourself.

His name's Nouredin. He's from Rabat, in Morocco.
He's a student. He's 21. He isn't married. He's interested in music and politics. He isn't interested in sport.

My name's

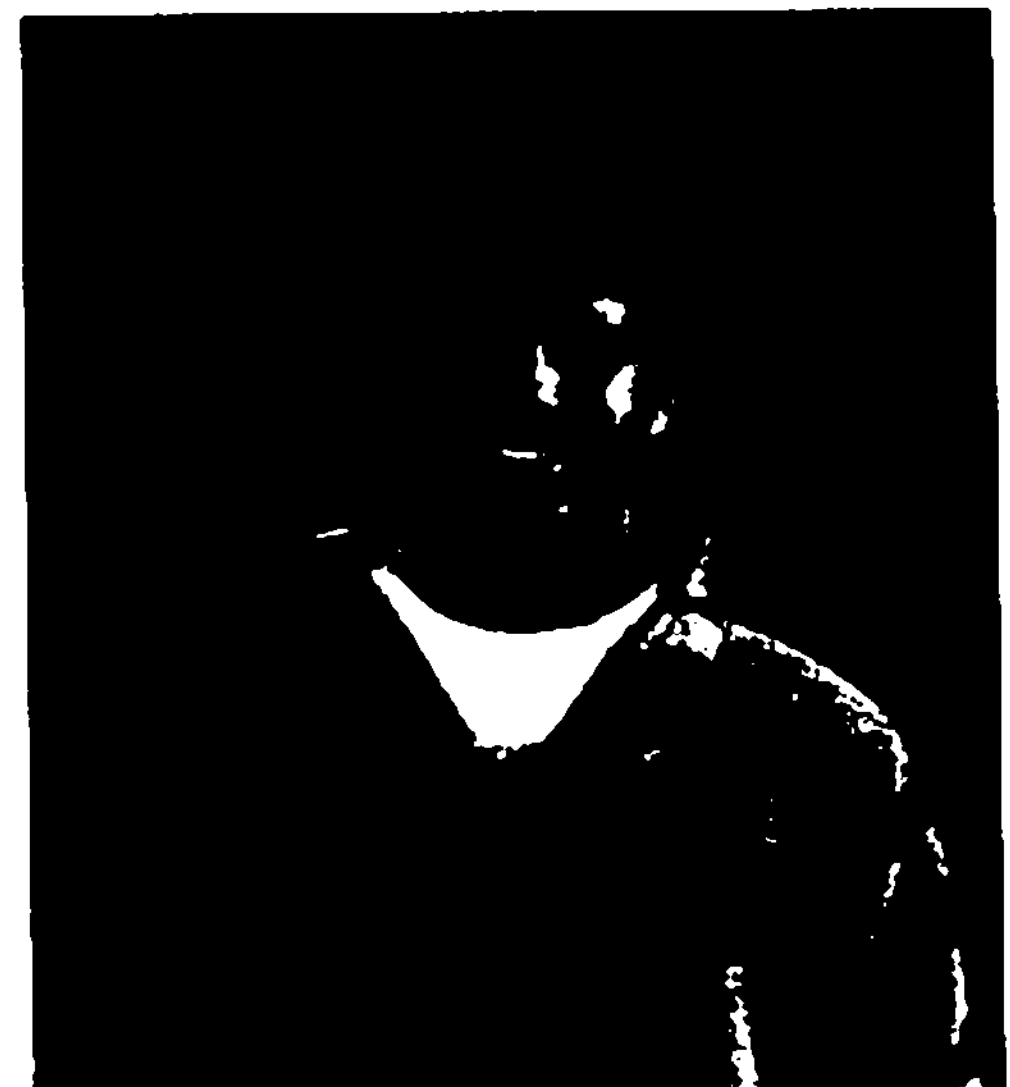
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be: past *Where were you? I was in Glasgow.*

+	<i>I was you were he/she/it was we were they were</i>
?	<i>was I? were you? was he/she/it? were we? were they?</i>
-	<i>I was not you were not he/she/it was not we were not they were not</i>
Contractions: <i>wasn't, weren't</i>	

Where were you yesterday? My mother was a singer. I wasn't well last week.

1 Put in *was* or *were*.

- ▶ In summer 1990 I *was* in Brazil.
- 1 'We very happy to see you yesterday.' 'And I happy to see you.'
- 2 Lunch OK, but the vegetables not very good.
- 3 I can't find my keys. They here this morning.
- 4 It cold and dark, and we tired.
- 5 My grandmother a doctor, and her three children all doctors too.
- 6 '..... you in London yesterday?' 'No, I in Glasgow.'
- 7 'When your exam?' 'It yesterday.'

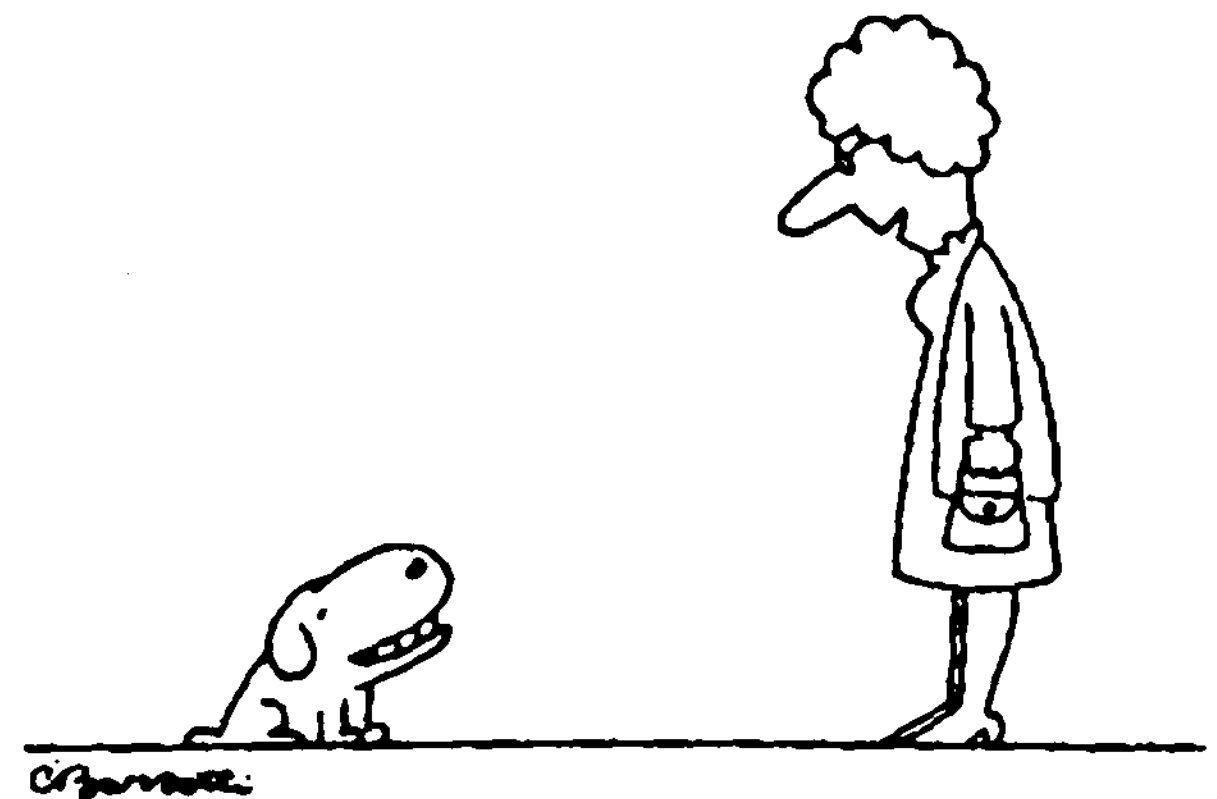
2 Put the words in the correct order to make questions.

- ▶ Ann at home yesterday was *Was Ann at home yesterday?*
- 1 good party was the
- 2 people were the interesting
- 3 teacher father your was a
- 4 everybody was late
- 5 John's brother school was with at you

3 Put in *wasn't* or *weren't* and words from the box. Make sure you understand *actually*. Use a dictionary if necessary.

a teacher	in England	interesting ✓
late	well	with Anna

- ▶ The lesson *wasn't interesting*.
Actually, it was very boring.
- 1 You Actually,
you arrived 10 minutes early.
- 2 My father
Actually, he worked as a bus driver.
- 3 I yesterday.
Actually, I was with Susan.
- 4 The children
yesterday. The doctor came to see them.
- 5 We last week.
We went to Scotland for a few days.



'And were you good while I was out?'

→ For the present perfect of *be* (*I have been* etc), see page 61.

be: future *The bus will be full.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	I/you/he/she/it/we/they will be
<input type="checkbox"/>	will I/you/she etc be?
<input type="checkbox"/>	I/you/he etc will not be
Contractions: I'll, you'll etc; won't (= will not)	

It will be cold this evening. I'll be at home all day tomorrow.
Where will we be ten years from now? The exam won't be difficult.

1 Look at the table and complete the text.

Tomorrow *it will be*..... very hot in Cairo.
It hot in
..... warm in
..... cold in
..... very cold in

Cairo	35°
Rio	30°
Paris	23°
London	3°
Moscow	-18°

2 Change these sentences to affirmative (+) or negative (-).

- ▶ The bus will not be full. *The bus will be full.*
- ▶ She'll be late. *She won't be late.*
- 1 I'll be sorry.
- 2 It will not be hot.
- 3 We won't be at home.
- 4 The shops will be closed.
- 5 He'll be in Scotland.
- 6 Ann will be at school.

To make future questions with *be*, we put *will* before the subject.

STATEMENT (+): *We will be late. Her brother will be here at 10.00. The bus will be full.*
QUESTION (?): *Will we be late? When will her brother be here? Will the bus be full?*

3 Make questions with will ... be ...?

- ▶ you / at home / this evening *Will you be at home this evening?*
- ▶ when / lunch / ready *When will lunch be ready?*
- 1 when / your father / in England
- 2 Ann / at the party / with John
- 3 everybody / here / at 8.00
- 4 the train / late / again
- 5 when / Joe and Mary / in the office
- 6 the weather / good / tomorrow
- 7 where / you / on Tuesday

4 Complete the sentences.

- 1 (your age) This year I am In 2000 I
- Last year I Next year I In 20... I
- 2 (a friend's age) This year he/she In 2000
- Last year Next year In 20...