



The Verb Be — A1 exercises

Printable worksheet · 23 questions · answer key with explanations on the last page
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Name _____ Date _____ Score _____ / 23

A. Multiple choice

10 questions

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. I ____ from Portugal.
A) is B) are C) be D) am
2. She ____ a doctor at the city hospital.
A) am B) are C) is D) be
3. My parents ____ at work right now.
A) are B) is C) am D) be
4. ____ you ready to leave?
A) Is B) Are C) Am D) Do
5. The weather ____ very cold this morning.
A) is B) are C) am D) be
6. We ____ not late — the train is early.
A) are B) is C) am D) be
7. Which sentence about age is correct?
A) I have thirty years. B) I am thirty years old.
C) I am thirty years. D) I have thirty years old.
8. ____ your brother a student?
A) Are B) Am C) Do D) Is
9. The children ____ in the garden with their grandmother.
A) is B) am C) was D) are
10. It ____ half past eight already.
A) am B) are C) be D) is

B. Fill in the blank

8 questions

Write the missing word or words in the gap.

1. My sister _____ a nurse in London.
2. I _____ very tired after the flight.
3. They _____ my neighbours from the flat upstairs.

4. It _____ Monday today, so the museum is closed.
5. You _____ right about the timetable.
6. We _____ not ready to order yet.
7. _____ she your English teacher?
8. My keys _____ on the kitchen table.

C. Sentence building

5 questions

Put the words in the correct order and write the sentence on the line.

1. a / am / I / teacher.

Say what you do for a living, starting with I.

2. is / from / Poland. / She

Say where a woman comes from.

3. ready. / are / We / not

Make a negative sentence about a group including yourself.

4. Are / you / student? / a

Ask somebody whether they study.

5. is / old. / My / twelve / years / brother

Give the age of a younger family member.

Answer key

Every answer carries the reason behind it. Read the reason for the questions you got right as well — that is where you find out whether you were right for the right reason.

A. Multiple choice

1. **D) am** — I always takes am. It is the only subject that does, which is what makes it easy to remember.
2. **C) is** — She is a singular third-person subject, so it takes is. Note that the job also needs the article a.
3. **A) are** — Parents is plural, and every plural subject takes are.
4. **B) Are** — You takes are, and be makes its own question by moving to the front. Do is never used with be.
5. **A) is** — Weather is a singular uncountable noun, so it takes is.
6. **A) are** — We takes are, and the negative is simply are + not. No auxiliary is needed.
7. **B) I am thirty years old.** — English gives age with be, not with have. Years old is the standard phrase; have thirty years is a direct translation from French, Spanish or Turkish.
8. **D) Is** — Your brother is one person, so the question begins with Is.
9. **D) are** — Children is an irregular plural, so it takes are — the missing -s does not make it singular.
10. **D) is** — Times, dates and the weather all use it plus is.

B. Fill in the blank

1. **is** — One sister, so is. The contraction she's would also be correct if the pronoun were used instead of the noun.
2. **am** — I takes am, always. Tired is an adjective, so a verb is required to join it to the subject.
3. **are** — They is plural, so it takes are.
4. **is** — Days of the week use it plus is — the it does not refer to anything in particular.
5. **are** — You always takes are, whether it means one person or several.
6. **are** — We takes are, and the negative simply adds not after it. Aren't would also be correct here.
7. **Is** — She is singular, and the question is made by putting be at the front. No do is used.
8. **are** — Keys is plural, so it takes are, even though they are together in one place.

C. Sentence building

1. **I am a teacher.**
2. **She is from Poland.**
3. **We are not ready.**
4. **Are you a student?**
5. **My brother is twelve years old.**