

Lesson 2

Grammar

Be—Yes/No Questions

Irregular Plural Forms

Context

Being on Time

Time Is Money

Before

You Read

Circle *yes* or *no*.

1. I'm usually on time. YES NO
2. My doctor is usually on time. YES NO





Read the following conversation. Pay special attention to *yes/no* questions.

Simon comes to the bank to help Victor.

Simon: Am I late? I'm sorry. Traffic is bad today.

Victor: You're not late. It's only 10:15.

Simon: Oh, I'm 15 minutes late, then. I'm sorry.

Victor: Fifteen minutes is nothing.

Simon: In the U.S., people are usually on time.

Victor: Really? **Are you serious?**

Simon: Yes, I am.

Victor: I'm surprised. **Are people on time for everything?**

Simon: For most things. They're on time for appointments.

Victor: **Is this an appointment?**

Simon: Yes, it is. I'm here to help you with the bank.

Victor: I'm confused. My doctor is never on time. She's always late.

Simon: That's different. Doctors are always late.

Victor: **Is it necessary to be on time with friends?**

Simon: It's not necessary, but it's polite.

Victor: Look. The time and temperature are on a clock outside the bank. **Is time always on your mind?**

Simon: Yes, it is. "Time is money." Time is always on our minds.

Did You Know?

Americans use Fahrenheit (F) for temperature. Other countries use Celsius (C).

Vocabulary in Context

traffic	I'm late. Traffic is bad today.
usually	Students are usually on time for class.
serious	Are you serious ? Is it true?
appointment	Victor has a 10 A.M. appointment with Simon.
never	Some people are never on time.
polite	It's polite to say "please" and "thank you."
outside/inside	Victor is outside the bank. He isn't inside the bank.
on (my, your, etc.) mind	Time is always on my mind . I think about it a lot.
always	Some people are always late.
temperature	The temperature is 69 degrees today.

FAHRENHEIT	CELSIUS
0	- 18
10	-12
20	-7
30	-1
40	4
50	10
60	16
70	21
80	27
90	32
100	38
212	100

Listening

Activity

CD 1, TR 14

Listen to the questions about the conversation. Circle the correct answer.

EXAMPLE Is traffic bad today? Yes, it is. No, it isn't.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Yes, he is. | No, he isn't. |
| 2. Yes, they are. | No, they aren't. |
| 3. Yes, they are. | No, they aren't. |
| 4. Yes, it is. | No, it isn't. |
| 5. Yes, they are. | No, they aren't. |

2.3 Be—Yes/No Questions

Put the form of *be* before the subject to ask a question.

BE	SUBJECT	COMPLEMENT	SHORT ANSWER
Am	I	late?	No, you aren't.
Is	traffic	bad?	Yes, it is.
Is	Simon	on time?	No, he isn't.
Are	you	serious?	Yes, I am.
Are	they	at the bank?	Yes, they are.

Language Note:

You can use a contraction for a negative answer. Don't use a contraction for an affirmative answer.

Am I late?

No, you aren't. OR No, you're not.

Am I on time?

Yes, you are. (NOT: Yes, you're.)

Compare statements and questions with *be*.

STATEMENTS	QUESTIONS
I am late.	Am I very late?
Time is important.	Is time always on your mind?
People are on time.	Are people always on time?
It is necessary to be on time.	Is it necessary to be on time with friends?

Pronunciation Note: A *yes/no* question has rising intonation. Listen to your teacher pronounce the statements and the questions above.

Punctuation Note: Put a question mark (?) at the end of a question.

EXERCISE 1 Fill in the correct form of *be* and the noun or pronoun in parentheses () to make a question.

EXAMPLES (Simon and Victor) Are Simon and Victor at the supermarket?
No, they aren't.

(they) Are they at the bank? Yes, they are.

- (the bank) _____ open? Yes, it is.
- (I) _____ late? No, you're not.
- (it) _____ necessary to be on time? No, it isn't.
- (Simon and Victor) _____ inside the bank?
No, they aren't.
- (we) _____ on time? Yes, we are.
- (Simon) _____ polite? Yes, he is.



EXERCISE 2 Answer with a short answer, based on the conversation on page 31.

EXAMPLE Is the bank open? Yes, it is.

1. Is Simon on time? _____
2. Are Simon and Victor at the bank? _____
3. Is Simon with Dorota? _____
4. Are doctors usually on time? _____
5. Is it necessary to be on time with friends? _____
6. Are Americans usually late for appointments? _____

EXERCISE 3 **ABOUT YOU** Answer with a short answer. You may work with a partner.

EXAMPLE Are you usually on time?
Yes, I am.

1. Are you surprised about some things in this country?
2. Is your apartment big?
3. Are you a serious student?
4. Are you an immigrant?
5. Are you an American citizen?
6. Is this class easy for you?
7. Is English hard for you?
8. Are your classmates from your native country?
9. Is this your first English class?
10. Is your dictionary new?

EXERCISE 4 Fill in the blanks.

Conversation A:



Victor: Am I on time?
(example)

Dorota: Yes, you _____.
(1)

Victor: _____ at the bank?
(2)

Dorota: Yes, we _____. We're here to learn about the bank.
(3)

Victor: _____ open?
(4)

Dorota: No, it _____. It's only 8:48. We're a few minutes early.
(5)



Conversation B:

Simon: Hello?

Marta: Hi, Simon.



Simon: _____ in the car?
(1)

Marta: No, I _____. I'm at the supermarket now.
(2)

Simon: It's 9 P.M. _____ open now?
(3)

Marta: Yes, it _____. This store is open 24 hours a day.
(4)

Simon: _____ with Halina?
(5)

Marta: No, I'm not. I'm alone.

Simon: We need bananas. _____ on sale?
(6)

Marta: Yes, they _____. They're only 29¢ a pound this week.
(7)

Simon: Buy bread too. _____ also on sale?
(8)

Marta: No, it _____.
(9)

2.4 Irregular Plural Forms

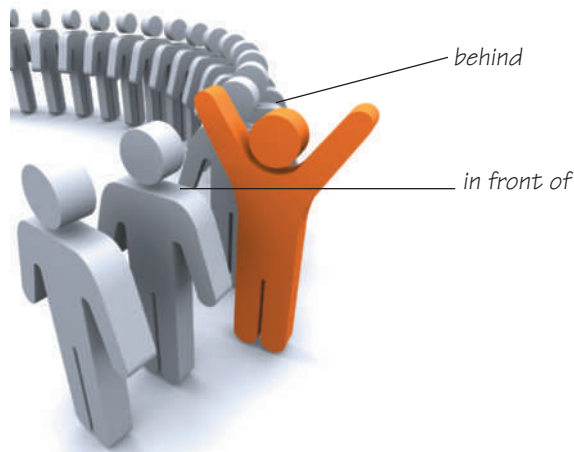
SINGULAR	PLURAL	EXPLANATION
child person	children people	Sometimes the plural form is a different word.
man woman	men women	Sometimes the plural form has a vowel change.

Pronunciation Note: You hear the difference between *woman* and *women* in the first syllable. Listen to your teacher pronounce the singular and plural forms.

EXERCISE 5 Fill in the blanks with the singular or plural form of the noun in parentheses ().

EXAMPLE The men
(man) are at the bank.

1. One _____ is behind me. Two _____ are in front of me.
(person) (person)
2. One _____ is with two _____.
(woman) (child)
3. One _____ is small.
(child)
4. One _____ is behind me.
(man)
5. Five _____ are in line.
(woman)
6. Three _____ are near the door.
(man)



EXERCISE 6 Fill in the blanks with *is* or *are*.

EXAMPLE The people at the bank are helpful.

1. This child _____ with her mother.
2. Those children _____ with their father.
3. The woman _____ busy.
4. One person _____ alone.
5. The people in the bank _____ busy.
6. That man _____ polite.