



The Verb “To Be”

This verb describes the “state” of something or someone or something that is a fact.

PRESENT TENSE AND PAST TENSE

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| I am | I was |
| You are | You were (singular, referring to yourself) |
| He is | He was |
| She is | She was |
| It is | It was |
| We are | We were |
| You are | You were (plural, referring to a group) |
| They are | They were |

Examples

1. I **am** a woman. I **was** born in Trinidad.
2. You **are** in class. You **were** at home yesterday.
3. He **is** forty years old. He **was** ten years old when he moved.
4. She **is** a teacher. She **was** late for work.
5. It **is** warm outside. It **was** cloudy yesterday.
6. We **are** learning English. We **were** shopping yesterday.
7. You **are** all students. You **were** told about this class.
8. They **are** busy. They **were** talking about you.



Forms of “to be” are used to create other tenses.

Present Continuous = Present tense form of “to be” + verb + ing

I am cooking dinner.

Past Continuous = Past tense form of “to be” + verb + ing

I was wondering where to go.