

The Verb "To Be": Contractions (Practice 2)

A1 English Worksheet – Lesson 4: More Practice with Contractions

Language Focus

In spoken and informal English, we usually join the subject and the verb be together. This is called a contraction.

I am

I'm

I'm on holiday.

he is / she is / it is

he's / she's / it's

He's my brother. She's a nurse. It's sunny.

you are / we are / they are **you're / we're / they're** *You're welcome. We're happy. They're here.*

Remember: the apostrophe shows where a letter is missing. "I'm" = "I" + "am" with the "a" replaced by an apostrophe. Contractions mean exactly the same as the full form – we just use them more often when speaking or writing informally.

Listening: My New Roommate

Context: talking about moving in with a roommate

Listen to your teacher read this aloud, or read it yourself. Then complete Exercise 1.

Guess what? I'm moving into a new flat next week!

My new roommate's name is Ellie. She's a nursing student.

She's really friendly and tidy.

Our flat is small, but it's near the city centre. It's on the second floor.

Ellie's brother is helping us move. He's got a big van.

Ellie's parents are coming to visit soon. They're very proud of her.

We're both excited about living together.

You're welcome to visit anytime once we're settled in!

1. True or False

Context: My New Roommate (from the listening)

1. Ellie is a nursing student. True / False
2. The new flat is on the ground floor. True / False
3. Ellie's brother has a small car. True / False
4. Ellie's parents are proud of her. True / False
5. The speaker is moving next week. True / False

2. Multiple Choice

Context: a wedding

1. ___ getting married today!
They're / It's
2. ___ a beautiful ceremony.
It's / We're
3. ___ so happy for the couple.
We're / She's
4. ___ wearing a lovely dress.
She's / You're
5. ___ the best man at the wedding.
He's / They're
6. ___ invited to the party tonight.
You're / It's

3. Matching

Context: full form to contraction

Draw a line to match each full form to its contraction.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. it is | <i>he's</i> |
| 2. they are | <i>you're</i> |
| 3. I am | <i>it's</i> |
| 4. he is | <i>I'm</i> |
| 5. you are | <i>they're</i> |

4. Gap Fill

Context: a text message to mum

Complete the text with the correct contraction for the words in brackets.

Hi Mum,

_____ (I am) at the new flat now! _____ (It is) really nice here. Ellie's family _____ (they are) visiting this weekend. _____ (She is) cooking dinner for everyone. _____ (We are) both very happy. _____ (You are) welcome to visit soon too!

5. Contraction Sort

Sort these contractions into the correct group: I'm, he's, she's, it's, you're, we're, they're

I'm:

he's / she's / it's:

you're / we're / they're:

6. Word Order

Context: moving house

Put the words in the correct order to make a sentence.

1. packing / I'm / my / boxes / today.
2. carrying / We're / the / sofa / upstairs.
3. a / It's / sunny / moving / day.
4. bringing / They're / some / pizza / later.
5. unpacking / She's / the / kitchen / boxes.

7. Right or Wrong?

Context: a social media caption

Is the contraction spelled right or wrong? Circle your answer. If it's wrong, write the correct spelling.

1. Were at the beach today! Right / Wrong: _____
2. It's a gorgeous sunset. Right / Wrong: _____
3. Theyre my best friends. Right / Wrong: _____
4. You're always so much fun. Right / Wrong: _____
5. Shes my favourite cousin. Right / Wrong: _____

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A1 Teacher Answer Key – Lesson 4

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1. True or False - Answers

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Ellie is a nursing student. | True |
| 2. The new flat is on the ground floor. | False |
| 3. Ellie's brother has a small car. | False |
| 4. Ellie's parents are proud of her. | True |
| 5. The speaker is moving next week. | True |

2. Multiple Choice - Answers

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. ___ getting married today! | They're |
| 2. ___ a beautiful ceremony. | It's |
| 3. ___ so happy for the couple. | We're |
| 4. ___ wearing a lovely dress. | She's |
| 5. ___ the best man at the wedding. | He's |
| 6. ___ invited to the party tonight. | You're |

3. Matching - Answers

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. it is | it's |
| 2. they are | they're |
| 3. I am | I'm |
| 4. he is | he's |
| 5. you are | you're |

4. Gap Fill - Answers (in order)

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. Blank 1 | I'm |
| 2. Blank 2 | It's |
| 3. Blank 3 | they're |
| 4. Blank 4 | She's |
| 5. Blank 5 | We're |
| 6. Blank 6 | You're |

5. Contraction Sort - Answers

I'm:

I'm

he's / she's / it's:

he's, she's, it's

you're / we're / they're:

you're, we're, they're

6. Word Order - Answers

1. I'm packing my boxes today.
2. We're carrying the sofa upstairs.
3. It's a sunny moving day.
4. They're bringing some pizza later.
5. She's unpacking the kitchen boxes.

7. Right or Wrong? - Answers

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Were at the beach today! | Wrong - We're |
| 2. It's a gorgeous sunset. | Right |
| 3. Theyre my best friends. | Wrong - They're |
| 4. You're always so much fun. | Right |
| 5. Shes my favourite cousin. | Wrong - She's |