

The Verb "To Be": Negative Forms

A1 English Worksheet – Lesson 5: I'm not, isn't, aren't

Language Focus

To make the verb be negative, we add not after am, is, or are. We usually use the short (contracted) form in speaking and informal writing.

I	am not (I'm not)	<i>I'm not tired.</i>
he / she / it	is not (isn't)	<i>He isn't here. It isn't finished.</i>
you / we / they	are not (aren't)	<i>They aren't ready. We aren't busy.</i>

Remember: there is no contraction "amn't" in standard English. For "I", we always say I'm not, never "I amn't" or "I isn't".

Listening: A Rainy Day

Context: describing a rainy day at home

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

It's raining today, so it isn't sunny.

My brother isn't at home. He's at work.

My sister isn't home either. She's at university.

My parents aren't busy today. They're relaxing at home.

I'm not going out. I'm staying inside and reading a book.

We aren't sad about the rain. It's a good day for reading!

1. True or False

Context: A Rainy Day (from the listening)

1. It's sunny today. True / False
2. The brother is at work. True / False
3. The sister is at home. True / False
4. The parents are busy today. True / False
5. The speaker is going out. True / False

2. Multiple Choice

Context: a busy office

1. The printer ___ working today.
isn't / aren't
2. The computers ___ new.
isn't / aren't
3. I ___ ready for the meeting yet.
isn't / am not
4. The staff ___ happy about the delay.
isn't / aren't
5. This report ___ finished.
isn't / aren't
6. We ___ available until three o'clock.
aren't / isn't

3. Matching

Context: full form to contraction

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

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. I am not | <i>she isn't</i> |
| 2. he is not | <i>we aren't</i> |
| 3. she is not | <i>I'm not</i> |
| 4. they are not | <i>they aren't</i> |
| 5. we are not | <i>he isn't</i> |

4. Gap Fill

Context: an apology note

Complete the note with the correct negative form for the words in brackets.

Sorry, I _____ (I am not) able to come to the party tonight. My car _____ (is not) working. My sister _____ (is not) free to give me a lift either. My parents _____ (are not) home to help. The buses _____ (are not) running late at night. I _____ (am not) happy about missing it, but I'll see you soon!

5. Negative Form Sort

Sort these subjects into the correct group: I, He, She, It, The printer, My sister, You, We, They, My parents, The buses

am not:

isn't:

aren't:

6. Word Order

Context: canceling plans

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

1. not / I'm / going / to / the / gym / today.
2. isn't / The / shop / open / on / Sundays.
3. aren't / My / friends / coming / to / dinner.
4. isn't / This / bag / very / heavy.
5. aren't / We / ready / to / leave / yet.

7. Right or Wrong?

Context: a restaurant review

Is the negative form right or wrong? Circle your answer. If it's wrong, write the correct form.

1. The food isn't very good here. Right / Wrong: _____
2. The waiters aren't friendly. Right / Wrong: _____
3. I amn't happy with the service. Right / Wrong: _____
4. The tables isn't clean. Right / Wrong: _____
5. This restaurant aren't cheap. Right / Wrong: _____

The Verb "To Be": Negative Forms

A1 Teacher Answer Key – Lesson 5

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS

1. True or False - Answers

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. It's sunny today. | False |
| 2. The brother is at work. | True |
| 3. The sister is at home. | False |
| 4. The parents are busy today. | False |
| 5. The speaker is going out. | False |

2. Multiple Choice - Answers

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. The printer ___ working today. | isn't |
| 2. The computers ___ new. | aren't |
| 3. I ___ ready for the meeting yet. | am not |
| 4. The staff ___ happy about the delay. | aren't |
| 5. This report ___ finished. | isn't |
| 6. We ___ available until three o'clock. | aren't |

3. Matching - Answers

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. I am not | I'm not |
| 2. he is not | he isn't |
| 3. she is not | she isn't |
| 4. they are not | they aren't |
| 5. we are not | we aren't |

4. Gap Fill - Answers (in order)

- | | |
|------------|--------|
| 1. Blank 1 | am not |
| 2. Blank 2 | isn't |
| 3. Blank 3 | isn't |
| 4. Blank 4 | aren't |
| 5. Blank 5 | aren't |
| 6. Blank 6 | am not |

5. Negative Form Sort - Answers

am not:

I

isn't:

He, She, It, The printer, My sister

aren't:

You, We, They, My parents, The buses

6. Word Order - Answers

1. I'm not going to the gym today.
2. The shop isn't open on Sundays.
3. My friends aren't coming to dinner.
4. This bag isn't very heavy.
5. We aren't ready to leave yet.

7. Right or Wrong? - Answers

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The food isn't very good here. | Right |
| 2. The waiters aren't friendly. | Right |
| 3. I amn't happy with the service. | Wrong - I'm not |
| 4. The tables isn't clean. | Wrong - aren't |
| 5. This restaurant aren't cheap. | Wrong - isn't |