

LESSON 1 - Being Verbs Basics | To Be or Not To Be

1A. GRAMMAR

The 'being verbs' are the *italicized* verbs in these sentences.

I *am* running.

We *are* swimming.

They *are* blasting aliens, with pleasure.

Jeff *is* happy that he is going to college near the mountains.

Stacy and Stephanie *are* excited because they ran faster than the angry bear.

In Latin the being verbs are:

Singular	Plural
<i>sum</i> - I am	<i>sumus</i> - we are
<i>es</i> - you are	<i>estis</i> - you (plural) are
<i>est</i> - he, she, it is, or is	<i>sunt</i> - they are, or are

Notice that pronouns are included with the being verbs in Latin. In English, we use two separate words in a sentence: a pronoun and a verb. For instance, *I am* in English is just one word in Latin: *sum*. The Latin word *est* means *is*. However, when used by itself, it can also mean, *he is*, *she is*, or *it is*. *Sunt* means *are*, but also means *they are*.

Look at these Latin sentences. **Circle the being verbs. Use the chart above to translate the sentences into English in the space provided beneath.** (You can guess at the country names.)

Sum in Germania.

I am in Germany.

Es in Germania.

You are in Germany.

Sumus in Germania.

We are in Ger.

Sum in Italia.

I am in Italy.

Es in Italia.

You are in Italy.

Sumus in Italia.

We are in Italy.

Est in Britannia.

He, she, or it is in England.

Estis in America.

You (plural) are in America.

Sunt in Antarctica.

They are in Antarctica.

Non est in Britannia.

He, she, or it is not in England.

Estis in Australia.

You are in Australia.
↳ (Plural)

Non sunt in Antarctica.

They are not in Antarctica.

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1B. SENTENCES

Write the correct Latin being verb in the sentences below. The first few are done for you.

Toga est longa. Togae (togas) sunt longae.

Forum est magnum. Fori (marketplaces) sunt magnae.

Toga est longa.

Deus est bonus.

Mamma est laeta (happy).

Podium est altum (high).

Angelus est in caelo (heaven).

To ask questions in Latin, simply add “-ne” to the end of the verb. The Romans usually moved the verb to the front of the sentence after including “-ne”.

- Estne mamma in casa? Is mom in the house?
- Estne Julia in Italia? Is Julia in Italy?
- Suntne animalia in silva? Are there animals in the woods?
- Suntne animalia in aqua? Are there animals in the water?

Answer these questions in Latin by writing in the correct being verb that matches the question.

Estne toga longa? Toga est longa.

Estne forum magnum? Forum est magnum.

Suntne animalia magna? Animalia sunt magna

Estne cactus altus (tall)? Cactus est altus.

Suntne togae longae? Togae sunt longae.

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1C. READING & TRANSLATION

Listen to the reading on the video, then translate the sentences in the space provided using the Latin vocabulary listed below. It's not necessary to know exactly what the word endings mean; just match Latin and English to make readable sentences. If necessary, adjust the word order so your English sentences make sense.

Deus est bonus. Deus est in caelo. Deus creat angelos.

God is good. God is in heaven. God creates angels.
(or the sky)

Angeli sunt in caelo. Angeli amant Deum. Angeli

Angels are in the sky. Angels love God. Angels
(or heaven)

cantant. Estne caelum bellum? Caelum est bellum.

Sing. Is the sky (heaven) beautiful? The sky is beautiful.

Vocabulary:	<i>cantant</i> - sing
<i>amant</i> - love	<i>creat</i> - creates
<i>angelus</i> - angel	<i>Deus</i> - God
<i>angeli</i> - angels	<i>est</i> - is
<i>bellum</i> - beautiful	<i>estne</i> - is?
<i>bonus</i> - good	<i>sunt</i> - are
<i>caelum</i> - sky	