

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.

Es in Germania.

Sumus in Germania.

Sum in Italia.

Es in Italia.

Sumus in Italia.

Est in Britannia.

Estis in America.

Sunt in Antarctica.

Non est in Britannia.

Estis in Australia.

Non sunt 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 _____ longa.

Deus _____ bonus.

Mamma _____ laeta (happy).

Podium _____ altum (high).

Angelus _____ 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 _____ longa.

Estne forum magnum? Forum _____ magnum.

Suntne animalia magna? Animalia _____ magna

Estne cactus altus (tall)? Cactus _____ altus.

Suntne togae longae? Togae _____ 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.

Angeli sunt in caelo. Angeli amant Deum. Angeli

catant. Estne caelum bellum? Caelum est bellum.

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	