

English in everyday situations

Module 1: Arrival

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Arrival

English

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I'm, you're, he's

Form	Example	Meaning
am	I am Anne.	The speaker introduces herself.
are	You are my neighbour.	The speaker talks to a neighbour.
is	Milo is a cat.	The speaker identifies Milo.
Are	Are you the new neighbour?	Ask if this person is the new neighbour.
am	Yes, I am.	Give a positive short answer about yourself.
She's	She's Anne.	Use the spoken contraction for she is.

Use the subject pronouns **I, you, he, she, it, we** and **they**. English normally keeps the subject: **I'm Anne**, not just the verb. **I** is always a capital letter.

The present tense of **be** is **I am, you are, he/she/it is, we/you/they are**. Spoken contractions are natural: **I'm, you're, he's, she's, it's, we're, they're**. **You** addresses one person or several; add **please** and an appropriate greeting for a courteous tone.

For a yes/no question, put **be** before the subject: **Are you the new neighbour?** Reply **Yes, I am** or **No, I'm not**. Positive short answers do not end in a contraction: **Yes, I am**, not **Yes, I'm**.

a cat, my key, not mine

Form	Example	Meaning
a	Milo is a cat.	Introduce Milo as one cat.
an	I'm an engineer.	Introduce your profession.
my	This is my key.	Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.
mine	The key is mine.	Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.
isn't	He isn't my cat.	Say Milo is not your cat.
not	I'm not hungry.	Say you are not hungry.

A singular countable noun usually needs a small word before it: **a cat, the key, my key**. Use **a** to introduce one thing; **the** when the listener knows which one. Do not say **my the key**.

Use **an** before a vowel sound: **an egg, an engineer**. The sound matters, so **a university** but **an hour**. Start with the scene words **a cat, a key, an egg**.

A possessive form expresses ownership. Before a noun say **my key**. On its own say **mine: The key is mine**. For negation with **be**, use **isn't, aren't** or **I'm not**.

a coffee, please

Form	Example	Meaning
coffee	A coffee, please.	Ask for coffee rather than tea.
or	Coffee or tea?	Offer a choice between the two drinks.
and	Coffee and cake, please.	Ask for both coffee and cake.
I'd like	I'd like a coffee.	Make a polite request for coffee.
of	A piece of cake, please.	Ask for one portion of cake.
you	Thank you!	Thank the person who helped you.

At a café, a short request is natural: **A coffee, please.** Although **coffee** is normally uncountable, **a coffee** means a serving or cup. **A piece of cake** names a countable portion.

Use **and** to join things and **or** for a choice: **coffee and cake, coffee or tea?** Add **please** when asking and **thank you** after receiving something.

I'd like a coffee is a useful polite request. Learn **I'd like** as a whole phrase now; use the whole phrase for a courteous request. It means what you want, while **I like coffee** states a general preference.

I live, he plays, I want to sleep

Form	Example	Meaning
live	I live downstairs.	State where you live.
plays	Jack plays the trumpet.	State Jack's regular activity.
live	They live upstairs.	State where more than one person lives.
to	I want to sleep.	Say you want to sleep.
sleep	Jack wants to sleep.	Say what Jack wants to do.
wants	She wants a coffee.	Say what one woman wants.

Use the present simple for facts and routines: **I live downstairs, Jack plays the trumpet.** With **I/you/we/they** use the base verb. With **he/she/it** usually add **-s**: **he plays, she lives.**

After **want**, use **to** plus the base verb: **I want to sleep.** This **to** plus base verb is an infinitive. The second verb does not take a person ending: **Jack wants to sleep.**

English distinguishes a routine from what is happening now. The scene phrase **I'm going to the café** is learned as a whole useful message here; the present continuous is taught productively in module 5.

where, my, your, his, her

Form	Example	Meaning
Where	Where is the café?	Ask for the café's location.
His	Jack lives upstairs. His room is small.	Refer to Jack's room.
Her	May has a café. Her café is downstairs.	Refer to May's café.
on	The key is on the table.	Say the key rests on the table's surface.

Form	Example	Meaning
in	Milo is in the café.	Say Milo is inside the café.
our	We live here. This is our house.	Refer to the house belonging to us.

Ask about a place with **Where is ...?: Where is the café?** A pronoun replaces the place noun in the reply: **It's downstairs.** Use **he** for Jack, **she** for May and usually **it** for a thing.

Possessive words go before a noun: **my, your, his, her, its, our, their.** They refer to the owner: **his café, her key.**

For being inside a place use **in: in the café.** Use **on** for a surface: **on the table. Upstairs, downstairs, here** and **there** can stand alone without a preposition.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

1 I am Anne.

Meaning: The speaker introduces herself.

2 Milo is a cat.

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

3 A coffee, please.

Meaning: Ask for coffee rather than tea.

4 I live downstairs.

Meaning: State where you live.

5 Where is the café?

Meaning: Ask for the café's location.

6 Lukas is my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 Lukas is here. He lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena is here. She lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 Milo is a cat.

Meaning: The speaker identifies Milo.

11 This is my key.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

12 Coffee and cake, please.

Meaning: Ask for both coffee and cake.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 I _____ Anne.

- ☐ A are
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C am

Meaning: The speaker introduces herself.

2 Milo is _____ cat.

- ☐ A an
- ☐ B some
- ☐ C a

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

3 A _____, please.

- ☐ A coffee
- ☐ B tea
- ☐ C cake

Meaning: Ask for coffee rather than tea.

4 I _____ downstairs.

- ☐ A lives
- ☐ B live
- ☐ C living

Meaning: State where you live.

5 _____ is the café?

- ☐ A Where
- ☐ B What
- ☐ C Who

Meaning: Ask for the café's location.

6 Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

- ☐ A are
- ☐ B am
- ☐ C is

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

- ☐ A is
- ☐ B are
- ☐ C am

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

- ☐ A They
- ☐ B We
- ☐ C He

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

- ☐ A We
- ☐ B She
- ☐ C They

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 Milo _____ a cat.

- ☐ A am
- ☐ B are
- ☐ C is

Meaning: The speaker identifies Milo.

11 This is _____ key.

- ☐ A I
- ☐ B mine
- ☐ C my

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

12 Coffee _____ cake, please.

- ☐ A without
- ☐ B or
- ☐ C and

Meaning: Ask for both coffee and cake.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

is am

I _____ Anne.

Meaning: The speaker introduces herself.

an a

Milo is _____ cat.

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

tea coffee

A _____, please.

Meaning: Ask for coffee rather than tea.

lives live

I _____ downstairs.

Meaning: State where you live.

Who Where

_____ is the café?

Meaning: Ask for the café's location.

are is

Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

are is

Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

They He

Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

They She

Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

am is

Milo _____ a cat.

Meaning: The speaker identifies Milo.

mine my

This is _____ key.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

or and

Coffee _____ cake, please.

Meaning: Ask for both coffee and cake.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

1 I am Anne.

Meaning: The speaker introduces herself.

2 is cat. a Milo

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

3 coffee, A please.

Meaning: Ask for coffee rather than tea.

4 I downstairs. live

Meaning: State where you live.

5 the Where café? is

Meaning: Ask for the café's location.

6 is He's my from neighbour. Hamburg. Lukas

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 neighbour. from She's is Lena Hamburg. my

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 He in here. Lukas is lives Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena in Millbrook. She is lives here.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 Milo a is cat.

Meaning: The speaker identifies Milo.

11 is This my key.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

12 and cake, please. Coffee

Meaning: Ask for both coffee and cake.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 The speaker introduces herself. You say:

- ☐ A I am Anne.
- ☐ B I is Anne.

2 Introduce Milo as one cat. You say:

- ☐ A Milo is a cat.
- ☐ B Milo is an cat.

3 Ask for coffee rather than tea. You say:

- ☐ A A coffee, please.
- ☐ B A tea, please.

4 State where you live. You say:

- ☐ A I live downstairs.
- ☐ B I lives downstairs.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Lena is here. She lives in Millbrook. | Ⓐ Ask for coffee rather than tea. |
| ② A coffee, please. | Ⓑ Refer to the learner as your neighbour. |
| ③ Milo is a cat. | Ⓒ Ask for the café's location. |
| ④ Milo is a cat. | Ⓓ The speaker identifies Milo. |
| ⑤ I live downstairs. | Ⓔ Introduce Milo as one cat. |
| ⑥ Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg. | Ⓕ State where you live. |
| ⑦ Where is the café? | Ⓖ Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun. |
| ⑧ I am Anne. | Ⓗ The speaker introduces herself. |