

## The United States



The United States **is** a big country. There **are** 50 states in the U.S. One state, Hawaii, **is** a group of islands. It **is** in the Pacific Ocean, west of the mainland. Another state, Alaska, **is** north of Canada.

Washington **is** a state. It **is** in the Pacific Northwest. Washington D.C. **is not** a state. It **is** on the east coast of the United States.

Many of the states in the east **are** small. Washington D.C. **is** the home of the President of the United States, Barack Obama. He lives and works in the White House.

Our state, Washington, **is** on the west coast of the United States. Many of the states in the west **are** big. Texas and Alaska **are** the two biggest states in the United States.

The biggest city in the United **is** New York City. Other big cities **are** Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia and Phoenix. Do you know what states those cities **are** in?

## The BE verb

| Subject (1 <sup>st</sup> )              | BE (2 <sup>nd</sup> )                             |  |
|---|---|--|
| I                                       | <b>am</b><br><b>(am not)</b>                      | in class.  |
| He<br>My sister<br>It<br>Seattle<br>She | <b>is</b><br><b>(is not)</b><br><b>(isn't)</b>    | in Seattle.<br>at work.<br>my book.<br>a beautiful city.<br>a teacher. |
| We<br>You<br>Auburn and Kent<br>They    | <b>are</b><br><b>(are not)</b><br><b>(aren't)</b> | students.<br>a mother.<br>cities.<br>big tables.                       |

### Practice

- Russia \_\_\_\_\_ a small country.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ teachers.
- Julie \_\_\_\_\_ a teacher.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ in our classroom.
- English \_\_\_\_\_ the main language in the U.S.
- Their books \_\_\_\_\_ on the table.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ a student.

### Part II: Uses of BE

| Example                         | Uses of BE |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| She <b>is</b> happy.            | adjective  |
| We <b>are</b> from America.     | place      |
| The book <b>is</b> on the table | location   |
| I <b>am</b> 27 years old.       | age        |
| It <b>is</b> cold and rainy.    | weather    |
| It <b>is</b> 9:00 a.m.          | time       |

Practice!

#### A. Write the word.

1. Kent is a city in \_\_\_\_\_ state. (place)

2. I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old. (age)

3. In the winter it is \_\_\_\_\_. (weather)

4. Our class ends at \_\_\_\_\_. (time)

5. The cat is \_\_\_\_\_ (adjective)

5. The books are \_\_\_\_\_ the table. (location)

### B. Make the sentences

1. city/ is /beautiful/ St. Petersburg/a

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2. isn't/ California/ a small state

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3. hot/ today/ it /is

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4. the teacher/ from/ is/ Indiana

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5. years/I /am/45/old

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### Part III: Contractions with BE

I am = I'm in school.

It is = It's cold today.

She is = She's excited

He is = He's tall.

You are = You're at home.

We are = We're 18 years old.

They are = They're at the store.

Practice!

### A. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of BE

1. The United States \_\_\_\_\_ a big country. It'\_\_ between Canada and Mexico.
2. Canada and Mexico \_\_\_\_\_ countries. They' \_\_ in North America.
3. California \_\_\_\_\_ a big state. It'\_\_\_\_\_ on the west coast.
4. The White House \_\_\_\_\_ in Washington D.C. It' \_\_\_\_\_ the home of the President.
5. Texas and Alaska \_\_\_\_\_ the biggest states in the U.S.
6. New York \_\_\_\_\_ a big city. It'\_\_ in New York state.
7. People \_\_\_\_\_ busy. They'\_\_ in a hurry.
8. Portland and Salem \_\_\_\_\_ cities. They'\_\_\_\_ in Oregon.

B. Fill in the blanks with a contraction or word

I'\_\_\_\_ a student at Green River Community College. \_\_'m happy in the U.S. My teacher \_\_\_\_\_ American. His name \_\_\_\_ Jack. Jack \_\_\_\_ an experienced teacher. \_\_\_\_\_'s patient with his students.

My class \_\_\_\_\_ big. \_\_\_\_'s interesting. All the students \_\_\_\_\_ immigrants and refugees. We \_\_\_\_\_ from many different countries. One student \_\_\_\_ from Iran. Many students \_\_\_\_\_ from Mexico. Four students \_\_\_\_\_ from Russia.

We'\_\_\_\_\_ happy to learn English, but English \_\_\_\_\_ a difficult language. Sometimes I tell my teacher, "You \_\_\_\_\_ a very kind teacher." He says, " \_\_\_\_\_'re all good students, and I \_\_\_\_\_ happy to teach you English."