

Be Verb Contractions

Be verb contractions are shortened forms of the subject or subject pronoun and *be* verb. They are used in speaking and informal writing.

Uses

- with subject pronouns

Example

<u>I am</u> a teacher.	=	<u>I'm</u> a teacher.
<u>You are</u> my friend.	=	<u>You're</u> my friend.
<u>They are</u> playing.	=	<u>They're</u> playing.
<u>We are</u> in class now.	=	<u>We're</u> in class now.

<u>He is</u> not listening.	=	<u>He's</u> not listening.
<u>She is</u> writing.	=	<u>She's</u> writing.
<u>It is</u> on the table.	=	<u>It's</u> on the table.

- with *is* and most nouns

<u>My brother is</u> kind	=	<u>My brother's</u> kind.
<u>China is</u> a big.	=	<u>China's</u> a big.

DO NOT Use...

- with nouns ending with *sh*, *ch*, *z* or *s*

The bush is green.
 That church is very old.
 The quiz is easy.
 The bus is late.

- with plural nouns

My parents are teachers. (NOT: parents're)

A. Fill in the blanks. Use contractions when possible.

1. I 'm not a boy.

7. She _____ playing soccer.

2. They _____ our parents.

8. The bush _____ very tall.

3. Jake _____ eating pizza.

9. We _____ flying to Toronto.

4. It _____ very old.

10. Her father _____ a doctor.

5. The bus _____ late.

11. He _____ walking the dog.

6. You _____ our teacher.

12. We _____ musicians.

Be Verb Contractions

B. Rewrite using pronouns and contractions.

1. My parents are factory workers. **They're factory workers.** _____

2. The dogs are two years old. _____

3. Tom and I are early for class. _____

4. The pilots are having a break. _____

5. My father is on vacation. _____

6. The box is very heavy and big. _____

7. John is flying the plane. _____

8. My sister and I are at school. _____

9. Wei-Lin and Pancho are married. _____

C. Answer the questions about you.

1. What is he? (mechanic) **He's a mechanic.** _____

2. What are you? (student) _____

3. What am I? (office worker) _____

4. What is it? (a polar bear) _____

5. What are we? (old men) _____

6. What is she? (young) _____

7. What are they? (police officers) _____

8. What are you and I? (friends) _____