

LESSON 7: FILL BLANKS WITH "IS" OR "ARE"**1 GRAMMAR SNAPSHOT • STATEMENTS VS . QUESTIONS**

• **Statements** use lowercase **is** (one) or **are** (more than one). End with a period (.).

• **Questions** begin with Capital **Is** (one) or **Are** (more than one). End with a question mark (?).

• PART A • FILL IN " IS ", " ARE ", " IS ", OR " ARE " — COPY BELOW

Fill in each blank with the correct word. Then copy the complete sentence neatly on the line.

1. The horse _____ black.

2. _____ the horse black?

3. The apple _____ green.

4. _____ the apple green?

5. The boys _____ happy.

6. _____ the boys happy?

• PART B • STATEMENTS & QUESTIONS WITH " IS " AND " ARE "

Pay special attention to Capital letters at the start of questions!

7. The baby _____ asleep.

8. _____ the baby asleep?

9. The birds _____ singing.

10. _____ the birds singing?

11. The hen _____ too fat.

12. _____ the hens too fat?

SELF - CHECK

Did you use lowercase "is/are" inside statements (.) and Capital "Is/Are" to start questions (??)

Lesson 7: Fill Blanks with "Is" or "Are"

Teacher Answer Key, Comparative Syntactic Analysis & Scoring Guide

TEACHER ANSWER KEY

CORE PEDAGOGICAL OBJECTIVES

- **Subject-Verb Agreement Discrimination:** Fluently select *is*/*Is* for singular nouns and *are*/*Are* for plural nouns.
- **Capitalization in Inversion:** Enforce that verbs opening a question must be capitalized (*Is* / *Are*), while verbs inside a statement remain lowercase.
- **Terminal Punctuation Concord:** Affirm that declarative statements terminate in a period (.) and questions in a question mark (?).

INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS & STRATEGIES

- **Contrasting Pairs Routine:** Have pupils read both paired sentences consecutively: "The horse *is* black. / *Is* the horse black?"
- **Capitalization Checkpoint:** Remind pupils: "First word in ANY sentence must wear a capital hat!"
- **Number Clue Drill:** Guide pupils to circle the noun suffix '-s' (*boys*, *birds*, *hens*) to trigger *are*/*Are*.

#	TARGET FILLED SENTENCE	SYNTACTIC & GRAMMATICAL CORE	EVALUATION CRITERIA
1	The horse is black.	Singular statement (<i>horse</i> + lowercase <i>is</i>)	Lowercase <i>is</i> ; ends in period (.).
2	Is the horse black?	Singular question (Capital <i>Is</i> + <i>horse</i>)	Must capitalize Is ; ends in (?).
3	The apple is green.	Singular statement (<i>apple</i> + lowercase <i>is</i>)	Lowercase <i>is</i> ; terminal period (.).
4	Is the apple green?	Singular question (Capital <i>Is</i> + <i>apple</i>)	Capital Is ; question mark (?).
5	The boys are happy.	Plural statement (<i>boys</i> + lowercase <i>are</i>)	Plural agreement: <i>are</i> ; ends in (.).
6	Are the boys happy?	Plural question (Capital <i>Are</i> + <i>boys</i>)	Capital Are ; question mark (?).
7	The baby is asleep.	Singular statement (<i>baby</i> + lowercase <i>is</i>)	Lowercase <i>is</i> ; ends in period (.).
8	Is the baby asleep?	Singular question (Capital <i>Is</i> + <i>baby</i>)	Capital Is ; question mark (?).
9	The birds are singing.	Plural statement (<i>birds</i> + lowercase <i>are</i>)	Plural agreement: <i>are</i> ; ends in (.).
10	Are the birds singing?	Plural question (Capital <i>Are</i> + <i>birds</i>)	Capital Are ; question mark (?).
11	The hen is too fat.	Singular statement (<i>hen</i> + lowercase <i>is</i>)	Singular noun selects <i>is</i> ; period (.).
12	Are the hens too fat?	Plural question (Capital <i>Are</i> + <i>hens</i>)	Notice plural <i>hens</i> requires Are + (?).

COMMON ERRORS & REMEDIATION HINTS

- **Lowercase Question Start:** Writing **is the horse black?**. Prompt: "Look at the first word of every sentence—it must be a big capital letter!"
- **Agreement Inattention:** Writing **The boys is...** or **Is the hens...**. Direct attention to the plural marker '-s'.
- **Punctuation Slippage:** Forgetting the question mark (?) when copying questions onto the ruled line.

SCORING RUBRIC (12 POINTS TOTAL)

Correct Word Choice (<i>is</i> vs <i>are</i>)	6 pts (0.5 pt × 12)
Accurate Capitalization (<i>is</i> vs <i>Is</i> , <i>are</i> vs <i>Are</i>)	3 pts (0.25 pt × 12)
Handwriting & Terminal Punctuation (. vs ?)	3 pts (0.25 pt × 12)