


'IT' AND 'THERE'



'There', 'it' and
how to use them

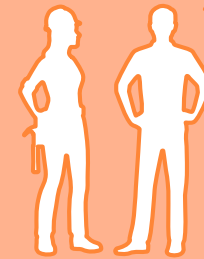
-All sentences must have a subject (except for imperative sentences).

-So, if there isn't any other subject, we can use 'there' or 'it'.

-This is usually called a 'dummy subject' or an 'empty subject'.

USE OF 'THERE' AS AN ADVERB OF PLACE.

'There' has two usages: First, it's an adverb of place. It's like 'here', but further away.



She is here!



She is there!

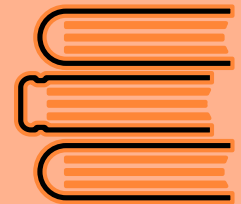
USE OF 'THERE' AS A PRONOUN

'There' can also be used as a pronoun that doesn't actually have a meaning, but is used as the subject of a sentence when otherwise the sentence wouldn't have a clear subject.

There's a book on the table.



There are three books on the table.



There was a farm here last year.



USE OF 'IT' AS AN EMPTY SUBJECT

We also use 'it' as a dummy subject. 'It' tends to be followed by an adjective rather than a noun phrase.

It + be + adjective + to + infinitive



It is nice to see you!

It + be + adjective + gerund



It is nice seeing you!

USE OF 'IT' AS AN EMPTY SUBJECT

We use 'it' with;

- dates and times,
- for weather,
- for distances,
- on the telephone.

It is the fifth of January.
It was eight o'clock.

It was rainy yesterday.
It is sunny outside!

It is eight miles away.

Hi! It is Jane!

Exercises ('there' & 'it')

- _____ is 22nd of April.
- _____ was nothing to eat.
- _____ was a nice journey.
- _____ is half past ten.
- _____ is me, Jane!
- _____ is 5 kilometers away from here.
- _____ is nothing they can do.
- _____ were a lot of people here yesterday.

Exercises ('there' & 'it') (Answer Key)

- it is 22nd of April.
- there was nothing to eat.
- it was a nice journey.
- it is half past ten.
- it is me, Jane!
- it is 5 kilometers away from here.
- there is nothing they can do.
- there were a lot of people here yesterday.