

## LESSON 3 SER Y ESTAR

### Introduction

**Ser y Estar mean “to be.” However, in Spanish they are two entirely different verbs. In this lesson, the student will become acquainted with their:**

- + Meaning
- + Conjugation
- + Uses

### Objectives

**Upon completion of this lesson, the student will be able to:**

1. Conjugate the verb **ser** in the present tense
2. Use the the verb **ser** in the proper context
3. Conjugate the verb **estar** in the present tense
4. Use the the verb **estar** in the proper context
5. Discriminate between **ser** and **estar**

### Prerequisites

Understand agreement between subject and verb  
Be familiar with past and present participles

### Vocabulary Building

You are encouraged to use a dictionary to expand your vocabulary.

### Decision Table

If you think that you are already familiar with the objectives, proceed to Lesson 4 on page 73.

# THE VERB SER

## Introduction

The verb **SER** (to be):

- defines the subject (essence)
- indicates who or what the subject is.

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## Conjugation

<b>SER (to BE)</b>		
	<b>Yo</b>	<b>soy</b>
	<b>Tú</b>	<b>eres</b>
	<b>Él/Ella/Usted</b>	<b>es</b>
	<b>Nosotros</b>	<b>somos</b>
	<b>Ellos/Ellas/Ustedes</b>	<b>son</b>

## PRACTICE ACTIVITY I

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of ser:**

1. yo \_\_\_\_\_
2. tú y él \_\_\_\_\_
3. ella \_\_\_\_\_
4. nosotros \_\_\_\_\_
5. María y Juan \_\_\_\_\_
6. Elena \_\_\_\_\_
7. tú \_\_\_\_\_
8. ellas \_\_\_\_\_
9. Usted \_\_\_\_\_
10. Ustedes \_\_\_\_\_

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**Go to page 66 to check your responses.**

## USES OF SER

**Introduction** In general, the verb **SER** identifies or states an essential characteristic of the subject.

### Uses of SER include:

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**SER + Adjective** **SER + Adjective** is generally used to indicate a permanent or essential characteristic of the subject.

**Examples:**

Marta es inteligente. (Marta is smart.)

Juan es Cubano. (Juan is Cuban.)

La mesa es redonda. (The table is round.)

La yerba es verde. (Grass is green.)

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**Used with religion, professions, political beliefs**

**Examples:**

Ella es Católica. (She is a Catholic.)

Carlos es dentista. (Carlos is a dentist.)

Miguel es demócrata. (Miguel is a Democrat.)

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**Material something is made of**

**Examples:**

La puerta es de Madera. (The door is made of wood.)

La sortija es de oro. (The ring is made of gold.)

La ventana es de vidrio. (The window is made of glass.)

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**Origin or Possession (Ser De)**

**Examples:**

El libro es de Isabel. (The book belongs to Isabel.)

Marcos es de Argentina. (Marcos is from Argentina.)

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## USES OF SER (Con't)

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### SER is used to express:

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#### Time of Day

#### Examples:

¿Qué hora es? (What time is it?)

Es la una. (It is one o'clock.)

Son las tres. (It is three o'clock.)

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#### Meaning “to take place”

#### Examples:

Las elecciones son el diez el martes. (Elections are on Tuesday.)

El exámen es en el cuarto 104. (The exam is in Room 104.)

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#### Impersonal expressions

#### Examples:

Es imposible. (It's impossible.)

Es necesario. (It's necessary.)

Es lástima. (It's a pity.)

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## USES OF SER (Con't)

**SER is used to express:**

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**Ser para**

**Indicates for whom something is intended.**

**Examples:**

Este regalo es para Esperanza. (This present is for Esperanza.)

El libro es para él. (The book is for him.)

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## PRACTICE ACTIVITY II

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb **SER**:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ las dos de la tarde.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ imposible.
3. Nosotros \_\_\_\_\_ de Cuba.
4. El regalo \_\_\_\_\_ para ti.
5. La casa \_\_\_\_\_ de madera.
6. Ustedes \_\_\_\_\_ médicos.
7. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ Protestante.
8. Los libros \_\_\_\_\_ para la maestra.
9. Ella siempre \_\_\_\_\_ bonita.
10. Este lápiz \_\_\_\_\_ de la profesora.

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**Go to page 67 to check your responses.**

# THE VERB ESTAR

## Introduction

The verb **ESTAR** (to be) refers to:

- the subject's state or condition.
- a location of the subject.

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## Conjugation

<b>ESTAR (to BE)</b>		
	<b>Yo</b>	<b>estoy</b>
	<b>Tú</b>	<b>estás</b>
	<b>Él/Ella/Usted</b>	<b>está</b>
	<b>Nosotros</b>	<b>estamos</b>
	<b>Ellos/Ellas/Ustedes</b>	<b>están</b>



## PRACTICE ACTIVITY III

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of estar:**

1. tú \_\_\_\_\_
2. usted \_\_\_\_\_
3. ellos \_\_\_\_\_
4. yo \_\_\_\_\_
5. tú y yo \_\_\_\_\_
6. Angie \_\_\_\_\_
7. Petra y Ricardo \_\_\_\_\_
8. usted \_\_\_\_\_
9. ustedes \_\_\_\_\_
10. él \_\_\_\_\_

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**Go to page 68 to check your responses.**

## USES OF ESTAR

### Introduction

In general, the verb **ESTAR** is used to indicate the state, location, or condition the subject. It is also used to indicate the result of an action or to form the progressive tense.

### Estar is used to express:

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#### **ESTAR + Adjective**

**ESTAR + Adjective** is generally used to indicate a temporary characteristic of the subject.

#### **Example:**

Marta está fea hoy. (Marta looks ugly today.)

By using “estar” the adjective “fea” becomes a temporary condition.

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#### **With a past participle**

#### **Example:**

La puerta está cerrada. (The door is closed.)

The use of “estar” indicates the result of an action.

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#### **Location of the subject**

#### **Examples:**

Madrid está en España. (Madrid is in Spain.)

El libro está en la mesa.

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#### **Progressive Form**

#### **Examples:**

Yo estoy comiendo. (I am eating.)

Ella está cantando. (She is singing).

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## PRACTICE ACTIVITY IV

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb ESTAR:**

1. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ en la casa.
2. El curso \_\_\_\_\_ terminado.
3. Nosotros \_\_\_\_\_ comiendo.
4. Ella \_\_\_\_\_ bonita hoy.
5. Texas \_\_\_\_\_ en los Estados Unidos.
6. Usted \_\_\_\_\_ hablando demasiado.
7. La comida \_\_\_\_\_ servida.
8. El niño \_\_\_\_\_ aburrido en la clase.
9. Tú \_\_\_\_\_ casada con un buen hombre.
10. Ustedes \_\_\_\_\_ enfermos.

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**Go to page 69 to check your responses.**

## SER AND ESTAR CONTRASTED

### Introduction

In Spanish **SER** and **ESTAR** are two vvery distinct verbs. When accompanied by an adjective, they describe very different situations.

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### With an Adjective

<b>SER + ADJ</b>	<b>ESTAR +ADJ</b>
La nieve es fría. (essence)	La sopa está fría. (condition)
Yo soy aburrida. (I am boring.)	Yo estoy aburrida. (I am bored.)
Él es viejo. (He is old.)	Él está viejo. (He looks old.)
El niño es malo. (The child is mean.)	El niño está malo. (The child is sick.)
<b>INHERENT CHARACTERISTIC</b>	<b>TEMPORARY STATE</b>

## PRACTICE ACTIVITY V

Use **SER** or **ESTAR** according to the context:

1. El café \_\_\_\_\_ caliente. \_\_\_\_\_ para ti.
2. El profesor \_\_\_\_\_ de Perú, pero ahora \_\_\_\_\_ en Argentina..
3. La profesora \_\_\_\_\_ aburrida, por eso sus estudiantes \_\_\_\_\_ aburridos.
4. Nosotros \_\_\_\_\_ listos para salir.
5. El libro \_\_\_\_\_ de Juan y \_\_\_\_\_ en la mesa.
6. La casa \_\_\_\_\_ pintada. \_\_\_\_\_ de María.
7. El vestido \_\_\_\_\_ verde. Ella \_\_\_\_\_ linda hoy.
8. Mario \_\_\_\_\_ viejo. Tiene 99 años.
9. Ellos \_\_\_\_\_ estudiando español.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ imposible comer tanto sin enfermarse.

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**Go to page 70 to check your responses.**

## LESSON TEST

### I. Write the correct form of the verb in parenthesis:

1. yo (ser) \_\_\_\_\_
  2. él (estar) \_\_\_\_\_
  3. nosotros (ser) \_\_\_\_\_
  4. ella (ser) \_\_\_\_\_
  5. tú (estar) \_\_\_\_\_
  6. yo (estar) \_\_\_\_\_
  7. él (ser) \_\_\_\_\_
  8. nosotros (estar) \_\_\_\_\_
  9. ella (estar) \_\_\_\_\_
  10. tú (ser) \_\_\_\_\_
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### II. Choose SER or ESTAR according to the context:

1. La sopa \_\_\_\_\_ fría.
  2. España \_\_\_\_\_ en Europa.
  3. El libro \_\_\_\_\_ en la mesa. \_\_\_\_\_ de la profesora.
  4. Nosotros \_\_\_\_\_ listos para salir.
  5. Carlos \_\_\_\_\_ feo hoy.
  6. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ enferma.
  7. La casa \_\_\_\_\_ terminada. Ellos \_\_\_\_\_ pintando ahora.
  8. \_\_\_\_\_ necesario estudiar para los exámenes.
  9. La corbata \_\_\_\_\_ para Raúl.
  10. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ cansada de tanto pensar.
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**Go to page 71 to check your responses.**

## ANSWER KEY

### Practice Activity I

1. soy
2. son
3. es
4. somos
5. son
6. es
7. eres
8. son
9. es
10. son

## ANSWER KEY

### Practice Activity II

1. son
2. es
3. somos
4. es
5. es
6. son
7. soy
8. son
9. es
10. es



## ANSWER KEY

### Practice Activity III

1. estás
2. está
3. están
4. estoy
5. estamos
6. está
7. están
8. está
9. están
10. está

## ANSWER KEY

### Practice Activity IV

1. estoy
2. está
3. estamos
4. está
5. está
6. está
7. está
8. está
9. estás
10. están

## Practice Activity V

1. está/es
2. es/está
3. es/están
4. estamos
5. es/está
6. está/Es
7. es/está
8. es
9. están
10. Es

## ANSWER KEY

### Lesson Test

#### I.

1. soy
2. está
3. somos
4. es
5. estás
6. estoy
7. es
8. estamos
9. está
10. eres

#### II.

1. está
2. está
3. está/Es
4. estamos
5. está
6. estoy
7. está/están
8. Es
9. es
10. estoy

## **LESSON TEST DECISION TABLE**

	<b>If</b>	<b>Then</b>
	<b>You took the lesson test as a pretest and you scored 100%</b>	<b>Go to next lesson</b>
<b>Decision Table</b>	<b>You missed more than two questions in section I</b>	<b>Go back to page 53</b>
	<b>You missed more than 2 answers in section II</b>	<b>Go back to pages 55-57</b>
	<b>You missed more than 2 answers in section III</b>	<b>Go back to page 59</b>
	<b>You missed more than 2 answers in section IV</b>	<b>Go back to page 61</b>
	<b>You missed more than 2 answers in section V</b>	<b>Go back to page 63</b>
	<b>You missed fewer than two questions in each section</b>	<b>Congratulations! You are ready for the next lesson</b>