

ALL YOU NEED IS ~~LOVE~~ ENGLISH



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ENGLISH

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► **NICHOLAS ISARD** (1987)

Nick is from Southport, on the north-west coast of England, near Liverpool. He graduated with a first-class honours degree with distinction in Modern Languages and Cultures from Durham University in 2010 and speaks French, Russian and Spanish. He has taught English in Chile, Russia, Spain and the UK and has lived in Seville since 2010. He originally came to the capital of Andalusia to do a master's degree and then never left. He runs a translation company and coordinates the teaching side of things at Superbritánico. He loves real ale, travelling and anything to do with languages. His dog Auris accompanies him to the office every day.

► **DANIEL VIVAS TESÓN** (1985)

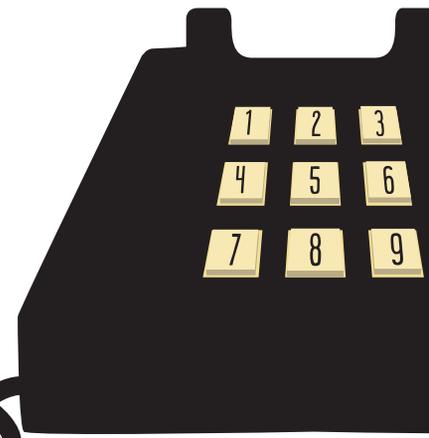
Daniel is from Seville (Spain). After graduating from the University of Seville in Business Administration and Management, he lived in Pilsen (Czech Republic), Limoges (France) and Durham (UK). He then worked at the European Commission in the Directorate-Generals of Communication and Human Resources, in Brussels (Belgium). From the very beginning of Superbritánico, he has coordinated the development of products, as well as its marketing strategy. He's passionate about British culture in general and especially its music. He's also a massive fan of David Bowie and even named his dog Ziggy. He loves the UK, although he speaks better French than English.

► **CRISTINA GONZÁLEZ FERNÁNDEZ** (1981)

Cristina is from Dos Hermanas, near Seville. Her city is the hometown of Los del Río, the male duo famous for producing Spain's best-known export – *Macarena*. After studying Advertising and Public Relations at the University of Seville, she launched her career in the world of graphic design, working for various agencies and even setting up her own. Right from the beginning of Superbritánico, she has been its creative director and main graphic designer and has a great ability to bring the brand's characters to life. A mum, who is proud to be an eighties' girl, in her free time she can be found immersed in comics, video games, fantasy film, eighties' songs and other 'alternative' pursuits.



HELLO,
IT'S
ME



Hello. Adele
25 (2015)

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Hello! What better way to start a book about English than with its most basic greeting? If it is good enough for Adele, then it is good enough for us.

Adele achieved international fame in 2008 with her single *Chasing Pavements* and debut album *19* (she was 19 when it was recorded). She has since shown the world how talented she is with her albums *21* (recorded when she was 21-22) and *25* (recorded when she was 25-27) with its single *Hello*. This cheeky girl from London has received Brit Awards, Grammy Awards and an MBE, and has even recorded the theme song for a James Bond film. What more could she ask for?

Hello is a song full of nostalgia and regret. It is a telephone conversation between her and her ex-boyfriend and she is saying how sorry she is for everything. If you watch the video, you will see her making a cup of tea by putting the teabag into the cup after the water (very controversial). Speaking of tea, why don't you make yourself one (black with a little milk and sugar to taste) to drink whilst reading this book?

In this lesson you are going to learn about personal pronouns. These are words we use in place of a noun and can be subject or object pronouns.

SUBJECT PRONOUNS

We are now going to look at subject pronouns. The second word of *Hello* is 'it', a subject pronoun and the third-person singular neutral pronoun to be precise. Subject pronouns indicate the **person or thing we're talking about (doing the action)** and are:

Singular	1 st person	I
	2 nd person	You
	3 rd person male	He
	3 rd person female	She
	3 rd person neutral	It
Plural	1 st person	We
	2 nd person	You
	3 rd person	They

The song has lots more subject pronouns and after saying "Hello, it's me," she says:

I was wondering if after all these years **you'd** like to meet.

Here she uses the first-person singular pronoun 'I' to talk about herself and the second-person singular pronoun 'you' to talk to her ex-boyfriend. We are now going to look at three subject pronouns which

have particular uses – ‘it’, ‘you’ and ‘they’.

► PARTICULAR USES: ‘IT’, ‘YOU’ & ‘THEY’

‘It’ is primarily used as a neutral subject pronoun to refer to anything which is not male or female, such as a thing, place, organisation or something abstract:

Oh yes, I like 25. It is such a good album.

Adele uses this pronoun to say who is calling and this is something we often say on the telephone:

Who is it?
Hello, it's me, Adele.

But we also use ‘it’ for:

The weather	It's raining cats and dogs. It's so hot/cold/sunny outside. Is it snowing?
The time	What time is it? It is eleven o'clock.
Dates and days	Thank God it's Friday (TGIF). It is Christmas day. What is the date today? It is Friday the 13 th .
Distances	How far is it to Big Ben? Oh, it's not far, it's only one mile. How far is it to Camden Town? It's a long way. It's around five miles from here.
Describing a place or situation	It was disgusting at the hostel where we stayed.
Commenting on an action, activity or experience	It is so difficult to get tickets to an Adele concert. It is such good news that she is coming to the USA. It is nice to meet/meeting you.

‘You’ and ‘they’ also have certain special uses you should know about.

If you want to talk about people in general, including yourself and the speaker, you can use ‘you’ (here is means ‘people’):

You need to practice lots to have a voice like Adele's.

‘They’ is used to talk about a particular group of people, but without saying who they are. So in *Hello*, Adele says:

They say that time's supposed to heal ya*.

* An informal way of saying 'you'.

'They' is also used to talk about one or more people when we don't know who they are (here it means 'somebody'):

They hacked Adele's boyfriend's phone and published personal photos of them.

OBJECT PRONOUNS

Object pronouns are used to talk about **the person or thing the action is being done to**. Going back to our example from *Hello*, do you see an object pronoun? When Adele says "me," she is using the object pronoun of 'I'. Here is a list of all the object pronouns:

Singular	1 st person	Me
	2 nd person	You
	3 rd person male	Him
	3 rd person female	Her
	3 rd person neutral	It
Plural	1 st person	Us
	2 nd person	You
	3 rd person	Them

The song has lots more examples of object pronouns, for example:

 Hello, can you hear **me**?
 I must have called a thousand times to tell **you** I'm sorry.

We also have to use object pronouns after prepositions, as we can see from these lines from *Hello*:

 There's such a difference between **us**.
 It's so typical of **me** to talk about myself.

And one last but very important thing – 'it' can be used as an object pronoun with verbs such as 'like', 'hate', 'love' and 'prefer' to describe what you think about a place or situation, so:

 I like **it** here.
 I hate **it** there.

You now have absolutely no excuses for not knowing your subject and object pronouns. It really doesn't get any more basic than this.

YOU'RE
BEAUTIFUL,
YOU'RE
BEAUTIFUL,
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL,
IT'S
TRUE



You're Beautiful, James Blunt
Back to Bedlam (2004)



THE PRESENT SIMPLE OF 'TO BE'

A former British army officer, pop-rock singer James Blunt (real name Blount, Blunt is easier to spell) became famous in 2004 with his album *Back to Bedlam* and its singles *You're Beautiful* and *Goodbye My Lover*. The first song reached number one in both the USA and UK, as well as numerous other countries.

In the song *You're Beautiful*, he is talking about a "beautiful" girl (or at least according to him) he saw on the subway and is regretting that he can't be with her. The video shows him on the top of a cliff in the snow (it was actually filmed in Mallorca), removing his shoes and the contents of his pockets. When, at the end, he jumps into the sea saying "I'll never be with you," some critics say he is committing suicide following a Japanese tradition where they remove their shoes and empty their pockets before jumping from a height. Other people say it is just about him completely forgetting and moving on.

As James Blunt repeats "you're beautiful" ~~an annoying amount~~ lots of times, you are going to learn the present tense of the verb 'to be' in this lesson.

HOW TO FORM IT

'To be' is **the most common verb in the English language** and until you know all its forms standing on your head, do not try to learn anything else. There is no point, without this verb, it is game over.

When he is talking about the girl he saw on the subway, James says:

**You're beautiful. You're beautiful.
You're beautiful, it's true.**

These are the contracted forms of the second and third-person singular ('are' and 'is'). Here are all its forms in the present simple:

Affirmative	I am	You are	He is She is It is	We are	You are	They are
Affirmative (contraction)	I'm	You're	He's She's It's	We're	You're	They're
Negative	I am not	You are not	He is not She is not It is not	We are not	You are not	They are not
Negative (contraction 1)	I'm not	You're not	He's not She's not It's not	We're not	You're not	They're not
Negative (contraction 2)	-	You aren't	He isn't She isn't It isn't	We aren't	You aren't	They aren't
Affirmative question	Am I?	Are you?	Is he? Is she? Is it?	Are we?	Are you?	Are they?
Negative question	Am I not?	Are you not?	Is he not? Is she not? Is it not?	Are we not?	Are you not?	Are they not?
Negative question (contraction)	Aren't I?*	Aren't you?	Isn't he? Isn't she? Isn't it?	Aren't we?	Aren't you?	Aren't they?

* 'Amn't' isn't a word in English, so use 'Aren't I?' in informal situations and 'Am I not?' in formal ones.

Have you memorised all these forms? If you haven't, your best option is to take this book back to the bookshop, get your money back and give up now. We're only on the second lesson, so you can still get a refund (please don't though).

Let's go back to our example from *You're Beautiful* and change it to practice these forms.

So, if you like someone, you can use the following affirmative sentences:

You're beautiful. You're beautiful. You're beautiful, it's true. (Contraction - from the song)
You are beautiful. You are beautiful. You are beautiful, it is true. (Full form)

But, if you find them difficult on the eye, you can use a negative sentence, adding 'not' after the verb or using a negative contraction:

You are not beautiful. You are not beautiful. You are not beautiful. (Full form)
You're not beautiful. You're not beautiful. You're not beautiful. (Contraction 1)
You aren't beautiful. You aren't beautiful. You aren't beautiful. (Contraction 2)

If, on the other hand, you're curious about what they think of themselves, you could form an affirmative question, inverting the subject and verb:

Are you beautiful? Are you beautiful? Are you beautiful?

Or, assuming they have said 'yes' and you want more details:

Why are you beautiful?

If you are feeling inquisitive and want confirmation that they're not beautiful, use a negative question, inverting the subject and verb and adding 'not' after the subject, or use a contraction:

Are you not beautiful? Are you not beautiful? Are you not beautiful? (Full form)
Aren't you beautiful? Aren't you beautiful? Aren't you beautiful? (Contraction)

Or just to be cruel and make them cry:

Why are you not beautiful? (Full form)
Why aren't you beautiful? (Contraction)

That must be firmly in your head by now because this lesson could not be more repetitive.

ALSO LEARN

▶ 'A'/'AN' WITH PROFESSIONS

When you are talking about professions, you need to use 'a' or 'an' after the verb 'to be':

James Blunt is a singer-songwriter.

But wait, do you know how to use 'a' and 'an'? It does not depend on how the word is written, but how it is pronounced. Although the general rule is that 'a' comes after a consonant and 'an' after a vowel (a, e, i, o, u), this is not always the case, as you can see below.

Vowels

University	'U' is pronounced like a consonant ('yew'), so the first sound is a consonant.	A university
Umbrella	'U' is pronounced as a vowel (ʌ), so the first sound is a vowel.	An umbrella

Consonants

Hotel	'H' is pronounced, so the first sound is a consonant.	A hotel
Hour	'H' is silent, so the first sound is a vowel.	An hour

At this point in the book you can now say, "Hello, it's me. You're beautiful." Now let's see if "she loves you."