



## There is / There are

If we want to say that something exists or doesn't exist somewhere or at some time, we often use '**there + be**'. It's often used to talk about something for the first time in a conversation.

- **There's** a cup on the table.
- **There's** a restaurant next to the station.
- **There isn't** any money in the house.
- **There aren't** any banks in this street.
- **Is there** a supermarket near here?
- **Are there** any potatoes in the cupboard?

In theory, we use '**there is + singular**' and '**there are + plural**'.

- **There is** a café in my village.
- **There are** two cafés in my village.

But we very, very often use **there's + plural and singular** when we're speaking. This is so common that it's not a mistake. We must use the short form here.

- **There's** a café in my village.
- **There's** two cafés in my village.

We can use 'there' with all tenses of be.

- There were many poor people in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.
- There won't be cake at the party.
- There have been a lot of accidents today.
- Will there be a train at 6pm?
- There hasn't been much rain recently.



We usually use '**there + be**' with a / an / some / any / no / much / many / a lot of and other indefinite words. We don't usually use it with 'the' or proper names.

- There's a cat in the garden.
- ~~There's the cat in the garden.~~
  
- There's a boy at the door.
- ~~There's John at the door.~~