

The verb *sum* is a linking verb.

The forms you have already learned are all in the PRESENT TENSE.

They are:

sum- I am

es- you are

**est –he is, she is, it is, there is
there are**

----- is

sumus- we are

estis- you are

sunt- they are,

-----are

Examples

1. Sum laeta

2. Caecilius est vir Romanus

3. Grumio est servus

4. Es in triclinio cum Corneliā

5. Sumus in magno periculo

This verb also has an imperfect tense the forms are:

eram- I was

eramus- we were

eras- you were

eratis- you were

erat- he (etc.) was

erant- they (etc.) were

you can also use the translation –*used to be*

Just like the present tense these are linking verbs and are used to join:

nouns/pronouns to nouns, adjectives and prepositional phrases.

EXAMPLES:

I was happy – **eram** laeta

He was in the house – **erat** in villā

The horses **used to be** wild – equi **erant** feri

There were slaves in the town- **erant** servi in oppido

Who **was** in the kitchen – Quis **erat** in culinā

Caecilius **was** a banker – Caecilius **erat** argentarius