

THERE

We use there as a dummy subject with part of the verb be followed by a noun phrase. (see Clauses, sentences and phrases):

- ❖ **to introduce a new topic:**
 - There is a meeting this evening. It will start at seven.
 - There has been an accident. I hope no one is hurt.
- ❖ **with numbers or quantities:**
 - There was a lot of rain last night.
 - There must have been more than five hundred in the audience.
- ❖ **to say where something is:**
 - There used to be a playground at the end of the street.
 - There are fairies at the bottom of the garden.
 - I wonder if there will be anyone at home.
- ❖ **with an indefinite pronoun or expressions of quantity and the to-infinitive:**
 - There is nothing to do in the village.
 - There was plenty to read in the apartment
 - There was nothing to watch on television.
 - There is a lot of work to do.
- ❖ **If we want to show the subject of the to-infinitive we use for:**
 - There is nothing for the children to do in the village.
 - There was plenty for us to read in the apartment
 - There was nothing for them to watch on television.
 - There is a lot of work for you to do.
- ❖ **with an indefinite pronoun or expressions of quantity and an -ing verb:**
 - There is someone waiting to see you.
 - There were a lot of people shouting and waving.
 - We use a singular verb if the noun phrase is singular:
 - There is a meeting this evening. It will start at seven.
 - There was a lot of rain last night.
 - There is someone waiting to see you.

Note: We use a plural verb if the noun phrase is plural.

- There are more than twenty people waiting to see you.
- There were some biscuits in the cupboard.
- There were a lot of people shouting and waving.



IT

We use it to talk about:

- ❖ times and calendar(day, month, year):
 - It's nearly one o'clock.
 - It's my birthday.
 - It's Monday today.
- ❖ Weather and season:
 - It's raining.
 - It's a lovely day.
 - It was getting cold.
- ❖ With non-living objects
 - It's my pen.
 - It's phone which I bought yesterday.
- ❖ to give an opinion about a place:
 - It's very cold in here.
 - It will be nice when we get home.
 - It's very comfortable in my new apartment.
- ❖ to give an opinion followed by to-infinitive:
 - It's nice to meet you.
 - It will be great to go on holiday.
 - It was interesting to meet your brother at last.
- ❖ to give an opinion followed by an -ing verb:
 - It's great living in Spain.
 - It's awful driving in this heavy traffic.
 - It can be hard work looking after young children.

Using "it" to talk about people even we use it to talk about ourselves:

- ❖ on the telephone:
 - Hello. It's George.
- ❖ when people cannot see us:
 - [Mary knocks on door] It's me. It's Mary.



We use it to talk about other people:

- ❖ when we point them out for the first time:
 - Look. It's Sir Paul McCartney.
 - Who's that? I think it's John's brother.

- ❖ when we cannot see them and we ask them for their name:
 - [telephone rings, we pick it up] Hello. Who is it?
 - [someone knocks on door. We say:] Who is it?

- ❖ to know the gender:
 - You have become father.
 - Great news, who is it?
 - It is baby boy.

