

# GRAMMAR: *there is / there are with some, any, several, a lot of, many*

## A LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT Read about the UFO festival.

Answer the questions.

### Helen:

'I'm from Canada, and I'm travelling in the southwest USA. Are there any interesting festivals in this area this month? Is there a festival in Arizona? I'm in Phoenix at the moment.'

### Jan:

'There aren't any festivals in Arizona this month, but there is a great festival in Roswell, New Mexico. It's called the UFO Festival, and it's all about UFOs and aliens! There are a lot of different types of events. For example, there are several planetarium shows and there are some talks by astronomers and other scientists. There aren't many tickets for these talks, so it's a good idea to buy them online as soon as possible. There's an alien costume competition, and there are many contestants with really crazy costumes! There's also an alien parade. Believe me, there isn't another festival like the UFO Festival!'



- 1 Where is the UFO Festival?
- 2 What types of events does the festival include?
- 3 Are all the events in the festival free?

### NOTICE!

- 1 The writers use the phrases **there is / there are / there aren't / are there**. Do these phrases refer to things or actions? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 How do we form a contraction of **there is**? \_\_\_\_\_

## B ANALYSE Read the text in Exercise A again.

**Function** Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 We use *there is / there are* to ...
  - a) say that something exists.
  - b) indicate the location of something.
- 2 We use words like *some, any* and *several* to talk about ...
  - a) exact quantities.
  - b) general quantities.

**Form** Complete the sentences in the table with the correct form of *there is / there are*.


<b>Affirmative</b>	_____ a great festival in Roswell, New Mexico.
	_____ an alien costume competition.
	_____ a lot of different types of events.
	_____ several planetarium shows.
	_____ some talks by astronomers and other scientists.
<b>Negative</b>	_____ another festival like the UFO Festival!
	_____ any festivals in Arizona this month.
	_____ many tickets for these talks.
<b>Questions</b>	_____ a festival in Arizona?
	_____ any interesting festivals in this area this month?

### WHAT'S RIGHT?

- There are a lot of people.
- There is a lot of people.

## C PRACTISE Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 There **isn't / aren't** any festivals in my country in November.
- 2 **Is / Are** there any food festivals in your town?
- 3 In Venice, there **is / are** a carnival in February.
- 4 There are **several / any** carnivals around the world every year.
- 5 Are there **any / a** dance competitions during the festival?
- 6 There **is / are** a lot of people in the parade.
- 7 There isn't **a / some** festival like the UFO Festival in my country.
- 8 There are **any / a lot of** festivals in the summer.

**D**  **NOW YOU DO IT** Work in pairs. Choose a festival in your city or country. Describe it for your partner to guess. Then switch roles.

- A:** *It's in August. There are musicians. There's a parade.*  
**B:** *The music festival!*