Hay

Hay (pronounced like “eye”) is a very easy verb to use in Spanish. It means “there is / there are”. You don’t have to worry about conjugating!

some examples:

You can use it to ask how many things there are.

¿Cuántos estudiantes hay en la clase?

How many students are there in the class?

Answer like this:

Hay veinte estudiantes en la clase.

There are twenty students in the class.

You can use it to ask what items are in something

¿Qué hay en tu dormitorio?

What is (there) in your bedroom?

Hay una cama y un armario.

There is a bed and a closet.

¿Qué hay en tu mochila?

What is (there) in your back pack?

En mi mochila hay libros y lápices.

In my backpack there are books and pencils.

You can also use it to ask if something exists

¿Hay un hotel en el centro?

Is there a hotel downtown?

SÌ. SÌ hay.

Yes. Yes there is.

¿Hay algunos libros por aquí?

Are there any books around here?

No. No hay.

No. No there aren't.

\*\*\*These notes were adapted from the original creation of Srta. Colbert of Roxana, IL.\*\*\*