Section 2  be, have and do

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language notes
The ‘Pronunciation for grammar’ component of the e-book has an exercise on perceiving unstressed forms of be.

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language notes
*There is three candidates for the presidency.

Note, however, that in informal standard English speech, there’s can be used before plurals in certain cases.

There’s two policeman at the door asking for you, Joe.

Note also that the pronunciation of there in there is/are (/ðər/) is quite different from its pronunciation in, for instance, over there (/ɔvər/). Students don’t need to get this right in speech, but they do need to recognise the word when they hear it. The ‘Pronunciation for grammar’ exercises for this Section will help.

possible further activities
Planning a town  Individually or in groups, students imagine that they are planning a new town. They produce as many sentences as possible in ten minutes on the following patterns:

I/We would like there to be …
I/We want there to be …
I/We don’t want there to be …
There may be …
There’s no need for …

Internet  Ask students to find interesting sentences on the internet beginning:

“There has never been …”
“There will never be a …”
“There can never be …”

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language notes
Uses of have in speech are currently something of a grammatical jungle, with a good deal of variation in the use of got-forms and progressives, and some ongoing changes in British English due to American influence. This is mostly unimportant for learners, who will generally just find that they have a choice of reasonably acceptable forms. The main thing for them to note is the avoidance of short question forms (e.g. Have you a headache?) in informal speech.

possible further activities
Internet: most frequent activities  Can one use the internet to find out which activities are most frequent? Ask students to guess which of the following expressions will get most hits on the internet, listing them in order:

An asterisk (*) indicates an incorrect form or use.

Section 2 continues
“having breakfast” “having lunch” “having dinner” “having a drink” “having coffee” “having a baby”

Then get them to check up. They may find the results surprising.

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**language notes**

These uses of do for emphasis (like the use of stress for the same purposes) may not come easily to all students. Other languages may express the same kinds of meaning, for example, by changes in word order, or by special words or expressions whose purpose is to indicate emotive or contrastive emphasis.

A ‘Pronunciation for grammar’ exercise practises stress in these structures.

**possible further activities**

**Personalisation: strong likes** Ask students to complete the following sentence:

I do like …!

**Contrastive ‘do’** Ask students to complete the following sentence in one or more ways:

People don’t think …, but I/we/they do.

For example:

People don’t think that I pay attention in lessons, but I do.

**Extending Exercise 3** Get students in groups to make up their own versions of Exercise 3, and then give them to other groups to do.