

1. il y a
2. voilà

Il y a and **voilà** are two ways of introducing nouns. They are translated into English as 'there is / there are' or 'here is / here are.'

il y a

Il y a + noun usually indicates the existence of a person or a thing in the context of a particular setting. It is commonly translated as 'there is' or 'there are.' For example:

 A Austin, **il y a** une grande université.

In Austin, there is a big university.


Dans cette université, **il y a** plusieurs animaux qui parlent le français!

At this university, there are several animals who speak French!

Parmi ces animaux, **il y a** des tatous, un escargot, une chatte, un écureuil, et plusieurs insectes! Attention!

Among these animals, there are armadillos, a snail, a cat, a squirrel, and several insects! Careful!

The negation of 'il y a' is **il n'y a pas**, 'there is / are not'. You will also find these forms: **il n'y a plus**, 'there is / are not anymore', **il n'y a jamais**, 'there is / are never'.

 A Austin, il **n'y a jamais** de neige.

In Austin, there is never any snow.

Donc parmi ces animaux francophones, il **n'y a pas** de pingouin!

So, among these French-speaking animals, there is no penguin!




À AUSTIN, IL N'Y A JAMAIS DE NEIGE

The verb **avoir** in the expression **il y a** may be conjugated in any tense or mood, for example, in the past (**il y avait**, 'there was') or in the future (**il y aura**, 'there will be.')

voilà / voici

Voilà + noun and **voici + noun** are commonly translated as 'here is/are'. They are used to indicate the sudden appearance of something or someone, to introduce people or ideas. Alternating between **voici** and **voilà** is common when referring to more than one item.

 Tammy montre le campus à Tex: **Voici** la bibliothèque et **voilà** la célèbre tour!

Tammy is showing the campus to Tex: Here is the library, and there is the famous Tower.

Tex: Oui, oui ...

Tex: Yes, yes ...

Tammy présente Tex: Tex, **voici** Joe-Bob et Corey ... et **voilà** Edouard qui arrive.

Tammy introduces Tex: Tex, here is Joe-Bob and Corey ... and there comes Edouard.

Joe-Bob: Bonjour, Tex.

Joe-Bob: Hello, Tex.

Corey: Salut, Tex.

Corey: Hi, Tex.

Tex: Oh, la, la, de vrais Texans ...

Tex: Oh, la, la, real Texans ...



fill in the blanks

Fill in the blank with either 'il y a' or 'voici'.

1. Tex: _____ une fête ('party') la semaine prochaine.
2. Joe-Bob: _____ une chaise confortable.
3. Tex: _____ un exercice très difficile.
4. Joe-Bob: _____ beaucoup d'étudiants à l'université du Texas.
5. Tex: _____ mon premier livre: Guerre et amour.
6. Bette: _____ un ingrédient secret dans la tarte.
7. Tex: _____ beaucoup de musique country au Texas.
8. Trey: _____ mon skateboard préféré.
9. Bette: _____ le béret de Tex.
10. Tex: _____ un poème érotique. C'est pour toi, Tammy.
11. Joe-Bob: _____ une actrice dans ma classe.
12. _____ un jukebox au restaurant.