Viaje a Palenque

Maribel is now telling Marisol about her other visit to the Maya ruin of Palenque; that is, until she realizes how late it has become and how hungry she is. Read the exercises at right and chose either **ser or estar** and why.

**Bueno, Marisol**, Yo creo que las ruinas de Palenque son/están más antiguas que las ruinas de Chichen Itza. Es/Está en el bosque (jungle), en Chiapas, México. Tiene muchos edificios pero el palacio es/está mi favorito. Es enorme, con una torre (tower) alta y muchas esculturas hermosas. Ay, icarramba! Ya son/están las siete de la noche y tengo mucha hambre. Marisol, eres/estás ocupada? ¿Quieres ir a cenar en . . ?

![Photo of the Palace at Palenque by Jacobs](click to view more)

**Viaje a Palenque**

More of the same but different.

1 **Ser or estar**: which is correct in the first example?

- [ ] Use **ser** because the sentence describes the basic characteristic of the ruin.
- [ ] Use **estar** because the reference is to location.
- [ ] Use **ser** because the statement identifies the ruin.
- [ ] Use **estar** because the statement refers to the temporary condition of the ruin.
2 In the second example, we should use . . .

- **ser** because it refers to nationality and origen.
- **estar**. The reference is to its temporal condition.
- **estar** because the reference is to its location.
- **ser** because its identity is what's specified here.

3 Same question . . . What about example three?

- Use **estar** because she refers to a sensation, look or smell.
- Use **ser** because she is distinguishing one building from another.
- Use **ser** because **es mi favorito** is an impersonal expression.

4 **Ser or estar** in example four?

- Use **ser** because time and dates require it.
- Use **estar** because time is a temporary state and changes frequently.
- Use **ser** because Maribel is identifying her hunger here.

5 Last but not least, what to do about example five?

- Use **ser** because Maribel is identifying one of Marisol's character traits.
- Use **ser** because Maribel is distinguishing Marisol from other people.
- Use **estar** because a temporary condition is referred to here.