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, ¡carramba! 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
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More of the same but different.

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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 refered to here.