V

The present simple

The present simple tense is used to talk about general truths, habitual actions, and regular routines.

Form: The present simple tense is formed differently for different subjects:

- For the third-person singular subjects (**he**, **she**, **it**), we add '**s**' or '**es**' to the base verb.
- For all other subjects (**I**, **you**, **we**, **they**), we use the base verb without any changes.

Positive form: Subject + verb (base form) + object.

- Example: She reads books.

Negative form: Subject + do not/does not + verb (base form) + object.

- Example: They do not watch TV.

Question form: Do/Does + subject + verb (base form) + object?

- Example: Does he play soccer?

Usage:

- **General truths:** We use the present simple to express facts or general truths. Example: Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.
- **Habitual actions and routines:** We use the present simple to talk about actions that happen regularly or habits. Example: I go to the gym every Monday.
- **Scheduled events:** We use the present simple to talk about future events that are part of a fixed timetable or schedule. Example: The train departs at 9 AM tomorrow.
- **Permanent situations:** We use the present simple to describe permanent or long-lasting situations. Example: He lives in London.
- **Narratives and stories:** We can use the present simple to narrate events in a story. Example: The princess kisses the frog, and it turns into a prince.

Note:

The present simple does not indicate actions happening at the moment. It is used for general statements and repeated actions.



The present simple exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer to complete the sentence.

1. What is the correct form of the verb "to play" in the third-person singular?
a) play
b) plays
c) played
d) playing

2. Which sentence is in the present simple tense?
a) She is watching a movie right now.
b) They have finished their homework.
c) We will go to the park tomorrow.
d) He plays soccer every Saturday.

3. What is the correct form of the verb "to eat" in the first-person singular?
a) eat
b) eats
c) ate
d) eating

4. What is the negative form of the sentence "He always arrives on time"?
a) He always not arrives on time.
b) He not always arrives on time.
c) He doesn't always arrive on time.
d) He arrive always not on time.

5. What is the correct form of the verb "to swim" in the third-person plural?
a) swim
b) swims
c) swam
d) swimming

6. What is the negative form of the sentence "She plays the piano every day"?
a) She don't play the piano every day.
b) She doesn't play the piano every day.
c) She not plays the piano every day.
d) She isn't play the piano every day.

7. What is the correct form of the verb "to write" in the second-person singular?
a) write
b) writes
c) wrote
d) writing

8. Which sentence is in the present simple tense?
a) We travelled to Italy last summer.
b) She is studying for her exam.
c) He will visit his grandparents next week.
d) They often go for a walk in the evening.

9. What is the question form of the sentence "They speak English fluently"?
a) They speak English fluently?
b) Speak they English fluently?
c) Do they speak English fluently?
d) English do they speak fluently?

10. Which sentence is in the present simple tense?
a) I travelled to Japan last month.
b) They play football on Tuesdays.
c) She danced at the party last night.
d) We will go shopping tomorrow.

The present simple exercise 2:

Complete the sentences/questions with the present simple form of the verb in brackets.

1. Sarah _____ **(study)** English every day.

2. They _____ **(play)** basketball on the weekends.

3. He _____ **(not like)** spicy food.

4. _____ they **(watch)** movies at the cinema?

5. We _____ **(visit)** our grandparents every summer.

6. The cat _____ **(sleep)** on the couch.

7. She _____ **(not work)** on Sundays.

8. _____ he **(listen)** to music in the car?

9. My parents _____ **(cook)** dinner for us every evening.

10. We _____ **(not have)** a car.



Present simple: answer key

Grammar practice · A1 Beginner

Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. b) plays
2. d) He plays soccer every Saturday.
3. a) eat
4. c) He doesn't always arrive on time.
5. a) swim
6. b) She doesn't play the piano every day.
7. a) write
8. d) They often go for a walk in the evening.
9. c) Do they speak English fluently?
10. b) They play football on Tuesdays.

Exercise 2

1. studies
2. play
3. doesn't like / does not like
4. Do … watch
5. visit
6. sleeps
7. doesn't work / does not work
8. Does … listen
9. cook
10. don't have / do not have