

Lesson: The Present Simple Tense

The **present simple** is one of the most basic and important tenses in English. We use it to talk about **facts, habits, routines, and general truths**.

1. When do we use the Present Simple?

a) Daily habits and routines

Things we do regularly.

- *I wake up at 7 a.m.*
- *She goes to school every day.*

b) Facts and general truths

Things that are always true.

- *Water boils at 100°C.*
- *The sun rises in the east.*

c) Permanent situations

Long-term things.

- *They live in London.*
- *He works in a bank.*

d) Timetables and schedules

For fixed programs (trains, classes, events).

- *The train leaves at 6:30.*
 - *My class starts at 9.*
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✓ 2. How to Form the Present Simple

a) Affirmative (+)

Subject + base verb (infinitive)

But for **he / she / it**, add **-s** or **-es**.

Subject	Verb
I / You / We / They	play, eat, work
He / She / It	plays, eats, works

Examples:

- *They play football.*
- *He plays football.*

When to add **-es**?

If the verb ends in: **-ss, -sh, -ch, -x, -o**

- *go → goes*
- *watch → watches*

When **y → ies**?

If verb ends with consonant + y:

- *study → studies*

✗ b) Negative (–)

Subject + do not (don't) / does not (doesn't) + base verb

- *I don't like tea.*
- *He doesn't eat meat.*
- *She doesn't watch TV.*

Important: After **don't/doesn't**, the verb returns to **base form**:

- Not: *He doesn't goes*
- Correct: *He doesn't go*

? c) Questions (?)

Do/Does + subject + base verb

- *Do you speak English?*
- *Does she live in Paris?*

Short answers:

- *Yes, I do. / No, I don't.*
- *Yes, he does. / No, he doesn't.*

📌 3. Signal Words of the Present Simple

These words often show the present simple:

- **always**
- **usually**
- **often**
- **sometimes**
- **never**
- **every day / week / month**
- **on Mondays**
- **once/twice a week**

Example:

- *She usually walks to school.*
- *I never drink coffee.*

Spelling notes

- Verbs ending in **ss**, **sh**, **ch**, **x** and **o** add “**es**”, instead of “**s**” alone, to form the third person singular:

I kiss, he kisses *I box, he boxes*

I rush, he rushes *I do, he does*

I watch, he watches I go, he goes

- When “y” follows a consonant we change the y into “i” and add “es”:

I carry, he carries I copy, he copies I try, he tries

But verbs ending in y following a vowel obey the usual rule:

I obey, he obeys I say, he says