

the present simple tense

FORM OF THE PRESENT SIMPLE

The **present simple tense** is formed by adding **- s** to the base form in the 3rd person singular.

| AFFIRMATIVE | NEGATIVE | INTERROGATIVE |
|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| I read. | I don't read | Do I read? |
| You read. | You don't read | Do you read? |
| He reads. | He doesn't read | Does he read? |
| She reads. | She doesn't read | Does she read? |
| It reads. | It doesn't read | Does it read? |
| We read. | We don't read | Do we read? |
| You read. | You don't read | Do you read? |
| They read. | They don't read | Do they read? |

REMEMBER!



When we form the negative or the interrogative of the 3rd person singular we **DO NOT** add the **- s** to the verb anymore, but to the auxiliary verb **DO**.

SPELLING OF THE PRESENT SIMPLE

With verbs ending in **- O, - S, - X, - Z, - CH, - SH** we add **- es** to the base form:

go – goes kiss – kisses box – boxes
buzz – buzzes watch – watches wash – washes

With verbs ending in **- Y**, preceded by a consonant, we change the **- Y** to **- I** and we add **- es**:

fly – flies cry – cries try – tries

ADVERBS OF FREQUENCY

When we talk about habitual actions we can use adverbs of frequency like:

always, never, generally, usually, regularly, frequently, often, sometimes, occasionally, rarely, seldom

TIME EXPRESSIONS

When we talk about habitual actions we can use time expressions like:

**once, twice, four times (a day, a week, a year);
daily, weekly, annually;
every day, month, year, morning, night;
on Mondays, weekdays;
in winter, in the evening, at night**

USE OF THE PRESENT SIMPLE

The **present simple tense** is used to talk about:

- permanent truths:**
Water **boils** at 100 degrees Celsius.
The moon **goes** round the earth.
- events, actions or situations which are true in the present period of time:**
My sister **works** in an office.
They **live** in New York.
- habitual actions:**
He **gets up** at 7 o'clock in the morning every day.
John **spends** too much money on computer gadgets.
- future reference, with timetables and programmes:**
The plane **lands** at 3:35 p.m.
The bank **opens** at 9 a.m.
- observations and declarations, with stative verbs:**
I **see** you finished reading the book.
I **hate** it when you leave your dirty clothes on the floor.

ROUND UP

- We form the present simple by _____
- When the verb ends in **- O, - S, - X, - Z, - CH, - SH** we add _____
- If the verb ends in **- Y**, preceded by a consonant we _____
- We use the present simple to talk about: _____
- We can use adverbs of frequency or time expressions like: _____

LET'S PRACTICE NOW!

1

Fill in the blanks with the present simple tense form of the verbs in brackets:

1. He _____ (**read**) a book about Ancient Egypt.
2. We _____ (**buy**) a present for our mother's birthday.
3. I _____ (**go**) to school in the morning..
4. You _____ (**own**) a big house in the city.
5. She _____ (**play**) with the dolls in her room.
6. They _____ (**sleep**) for an hour every afternoon.
7. The dog _____ (**hide**) his bone in the garden.
8. The students _____ (**write**) their homework.
9. The train _____ (**arrive**) at 5 o'clock.
10. Winter _____ (**follow**) autumn.
11. He always _____ (**speak**) highly of his family.
12. It _____ (**rain**) a lot during spring in this region.
13. Mark _____ (**watch**) too much TV.
14. My mother and father _____ (**work**) at the city hall.
15. Our neighbours _____ (**love**) cats and dogs.

2

Give the 3rd person singular form of the following verbs:

1. **do** _____
2. **match** _____
3. **miss** _____
4. **pray** _____
5. **crash** _____
6. **fix** _____
7. **buzz** _____
8. **mix** _____
9. **fry** _____
10. **carry** _____
11. **scratch** _____
12. **marry** _____
13. **pass** _____
14. **go** _____
15. **flash** _____

3

Turn the following sentences into the negative:

1. I like watching documentaries.

2. He plays hockey every Saturday night.

3. The girls meet once a month in a café.

4. The sun shines strongly today.

5. You believe everything you hear.

6. She goes to school on Sundays.

7. The buss leaves at 8 o'clock in the morning.

8. The children sing in the school choir.

9. He always watches TV before going to sleep.

10. They protest against the new management.

4

Turn the following sentences into the interrogative:

1. You sleep till 10 o'clock in the morning.

2. She hates spiders and snakes.

3. We go to his birthday party together.

4. The nights last longer in winter.

5. The plane arrives with a half an hour delay.

6. Tim checks the internet for the latest updates.

7. Mary plays the piano beautifully.

8. The teacher always arrives to school in time.

9. They go to church on every Sunday.

10. Your dog likes playing with the ball.

5

Fill in the sentences with the present simple form of the verb in brackets and match the sentences to the pictures:

- Bobby _____ (**play**) football in our school's team.
- My father always _____ (**wake up**) at 6 o'clock in the morning.
- Rob _____ (**box**) in the heavy-weight category.
- Sometimes Susie _____ (**smoke**) too much when she _____ (**be**) at work.
- William always _____ (**wash**) his teeth before going to bed.
- The worker _____ (**carry**) the boxes into the shop.
- Ann _____ (**sit**) on a bench in the park and _____ (**read**) a book.
- My brother _____ (**watch**) every important baseball game.
- I _____ (**pray**) every night before going to bed.
- Susie _____ (**cry**) because she lost her doll.
- My grandfather _____ (**fish**) once a month in the lake near his village.
- Little Angie _____ (**eat**) a sandwich after she _____ (**arrive**) to school.
- Mark _____ (**go**) skiing every December.
- Susan _____ (**do**) her homework after she _____ (**get**) home from school.
- Eric _____ (**dress up**) with something new every day.



6

Make sentences in the present simple using the prompts:

- you / light / forget / turn off / always.

- he / alcohol/ drink / rarely / any.

- dinner / sometimes / my parents / have / restaurant.

- being / he / not like / late / work.

- she / always / write / homework / at night ?

- go / on Mondays / he / never / to / market.

- morning / usually / dishes / she / do / in ?

- light / never / she / street / cross / when / red / be

7

Circle the correct form:

- The cook _____ some chicken.
a) fries b) fries
- The mother _____ her son on the cheek.
a) kisses b) kiss
- Matt _____ to school by bus.
a) gos b) goes
- The boy _____ water all over the floor.
a) splashes b) splashes
- The baby _____ the shapes by colour.
a) matches b) matchs
- The mechanic _____ the car engine.
a) fixs b) fixes

GREAT WORK!

