



Subject: English

Book: Grammar

Topic: The Present Tenses – Simple Present

Date: 09-09-2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/Sec.: VIII \_\_\_\_\_

### Learning Objectives

- define simple present tense
- differentiate between simple present tense and present participle tense
- properly use simple present tense verbs in context

### The simple present tense

This module will present the simple present tense:

- its form
- and its use.

### What Is the Simple Present Tense?

The **simple present tense** is when you use a verb to tell about things that happen continually in the present, like every day, every week, or every month. We use the simple present tense for anything that happens often or is factual. Here are a few examples:

- I **go** to school every day.
- We **play** outside after school each day.
- Every Monday they **eat** spaghetti for dinner.

In these sentences, "**go**," "**play**," and "**eat**" are in the simple present tense. They tell about things that happen repeatedly in the present. The simple present tense is also used with basic facts and with feelings.

For example:

- The sky **is** blue.

"**Is**" is in the simple present tense, since it's used to tell a fact about something.

- I **am** tired.
- They **are** so excited.

"**Am**" and "**are**" are in the simple present tense and describe emotions.

Just remember, when you're using a simple present tense verb, you're describing something that continues to repeat itself in the present.

Before you continue, read the following passage and try to see how the verbs are formed and used.

James **is** a taxi driver. He **drives** a taxi. But on Sundays he **doesn't drive** his taxi. He **stays** at home.

The verb **be**, **drive**, **stay** are in the simple present.



## The forms of the simple present

### 1. The affirmative form of the simple present:

I, you, we, they	play.
He, she, it	plays.

Remember the verbs in the third person singular (he, she and it) always take an "s". For example, "he **plays**, she **sings**, it **works**..."

#### Examples:

- Nancy and James **speak** good German.
- Nancy **works** in a restaurant downtown.
- The children **play** in the garden every weekend.

### 2. The interrogative form of the simple present:

Do	I, you, we, they	play?
Does	he, she, it	

#### Examples:

- **Do** you **speak** good German?
- **Does** Nancy **work** in a restaurant downtown?

### 3. The negative form of the simple present:

I, you, we, they	do not	play.
	don't	
He, she, it	does not	
	doesn't	

#### Examples:

- No, I **don't speak** German.
- No, she **doesn't work** in a restaurant downtown

#### The use of the simple present:

The simple present is used:

- to give your opinion - I **like** ice cream. I **don't like** spicy food.
- to talk about schedules - The library **opens** at eight. It **doesn't open** at 7.
- to talk about daily habits (routine actions)- Sara **eats** a cheese for breakfast every day. She **doesn't eat** cereal.
- to give facts - The earth **circles** the sun. The moon **doesn't circle** the sun.

#### The spelling of the third person singular form of the simple present:

All the verbs take an "s" in the simple present when conjugated in the third person singular (he, she, it) form:

Examples:

- I visit my parents every summer holiday. But my wife visits her parents every weekend.
- My brother meets his friend every day.

So, the rule is:

**He / she / it + Verb + S**

There are however some special cases. Here are the spelling rules:

Silent e	Vowel + y	Consonant + y	Verbs ending in o	Verbs ending in s, z, sh, tch, ch
close = closes note = notes	play = plays say = says	study = studies marry = marries	go = goes do = does	miss = misses buzz = buzzes hatch = hatches finish = finishes teach = teaches

Examples:

- She **drives** to work every morning.
- He **says** he **plays** football on the weekends

**Exception:**

- The verb **to have** changes its forms as follows:  
I **have** two sisters and two brothers. But she **has** one sister and two brothers.  
I **have** = he / she / it **has**

**Things to remember about the simple present:**

1. In the interrogative forms, we use "do" or "does".
  - "**Do** you like the house?"
  - "**Does** she go to school?"
2. Verbs never take an "s" in the negative and interrogative forms.
  - "Does he **speak** German?"
  - "Do they **play** soccer?"
  - She doesn't **like** ice cream.
3. **don't** is the short form of "do not". You can say either:
  - I **do not** speak Italian, or
  - I **don't** speak Italian.
4. **doesn't** is the short form of "does not". you can say either:
  - He **does not** listen to jazz music, or
  - He **doesn't** listen to jazz music.