

## Present Simple (indicative)

The simple present is used to express actions which take place in the present or which occur regularly. It also serves to express general or absolute statements not anchored in a particular time frame.

I work at home.

Politics are a dirty business.

Jill speaks four languages fluently.

On Sundays, we like to fish.

In the interrogative, the present is generally introduced by a form of the verb "to do" ("do / does"):

Does your father like to cook?

Do you have time to stop by my place?

The appropriate form of the verb "to do" will also be used for the negative:

I do not (don't) work at home.

No, he does not (doesn't) like to cook.

After the conjunctions "when," "as soon as," etc., the present is used, even though actions expressed may refer to the future:

She'll come when she can.

He'll pay us as soon as we finish.

### Forming the simple present

The present is extremely regular in its conjugation. As a general rule, one uses the base form of the infinitive (minus the preposition "to"). For the third person singular ("he," "she," "it"), an "-s" is added if the verb ends in a consonant, or "-es" if the verb ends with a vowel:

To work

I work

you work

he / she / it works

we work

they work

### **To go**

I go

you go

he / she / it goes

we go

they go

However: verbs ending with "consonant + y" (for example, "to try," "to cry," "to bury," etc.) will end in "-ies" in the third person singular:

### **To bury**

I bury

you bury

he / she buries

we bury

they bury

### **"To have", "to be"**

The only irregular verbs in the present are "to have," "to be," and the modal verbs.

To have

I have

you have

he / she has

we have

they have  
**To be**  
I am  
you are  
he / she is  
we are  
they are

## EXERCISES

### 1. Make negative sentences.

Ex: I am not a baby.

1. You..... an animal.
2. John..... a girl.
3. Mike and Emily..... sick.
4. She ..... sixteen.
5. We..... from Japan.
6. I..... sad.

### 2. Make questions from the following sentences.

*Note:* You must finish your questions with a questions mark and start your sentences with a capital letter, or these exercises will be marked as incorrect.

Ex: You are a doctor. - Are you a doctor?.....

7. I am a student. ....
8. It is a bird. ....
9. It is a plane. ....
10. We are friends. ....
11. They are farmers. ....
12. Jenny and Simon are from America. ....

### 3. Make questions using the verb "to be".

Ex: Are you happy?

1. you happy today? .....
2. she a secretary? .....
3. David smart and handsome? .....

4. they from Italy? .....

5. I dreaming? .....

6. we good students? .....

**4. Make questions from the following sentences.**

*Note:* You must finish your questions with a question mark and start your sentences with a capital letter, or these exercises will be marked as incorrect.

**Ex:** she is doctor a - Is she a doctor? .....

7. Korea from is he? - .....

8. it is sunny .....

9. you how are .....

10. meet is you it nice .....

11. David Peter good friends and are .....

12. they are married .....

**5. Make sentences using the correct form of the verb in the Present Simple.**

**Ex:** She walks home. (walk)

1. I ..... cereal for breakfast. (eat)

2. She ..... work at 9.00. (start)

3. Dave and Tim ..... some candy. (have)

4. Charlie ..... movies. (like)

5. He ..... the piano. (play)

6. You ..... great! (look)

**6. Use the correct spelling of the 3rd person singular.**

*Note:* You must finish your questions with a question mark and start your sentences with a capital letter, or these exercises will be marked as incorrect.

**Ex:** The bird flies in the sky. (fly)

7. He ..... homework in the evening. (do)

8. Sarah ..... to English class. (go)

9. The boy ..... the ball. (catch)

10. Jenny ..... her family. (miss)

11. The teacher ..... us. (teach)

12. The baby ..... at night. (cry)

**7. Unscramble these sentences.**

Ex: She home at lives - *She lives at home.*

1. I my face wash .....

2. she tennis plays .....

3. he school likes .....

4. you a ride horse .....

5. Cindy good food cooks.....

6. a cough he has.....

**8. Write a self-introduction using the paragraph below. Choose your answers from these verbs using the Present Simple:**

*love - come - live - have - be - go*

Ex: My name is Peter. (be)

Hi! My name ..... Tyler and I..... from America. I ..... in New York and I..... sports and music. I ..... one brother and he ..... to university. It's nice to meet you!