



# **THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE**

**(GENERAL ENGLISH- GRAMMAR PART – UNIT 1)**

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# USES

1. *The simple present tense denotes an action in the present or a habitual truth or an eternal truth*

- ▶ **Habitual truth** - I get up early in the morning.
- ▶ **Eternal truth** - The sun rises in the East. Water freezes at 0 degrees of centigrade.



*2. Statements about a state of existence, beliefs, knowledge, likes and dislikes are normally only made in the simple form.*

Ex-Sri Lankans believe in fate.  
She appreciates my talents.  
John loves solving puzzles.



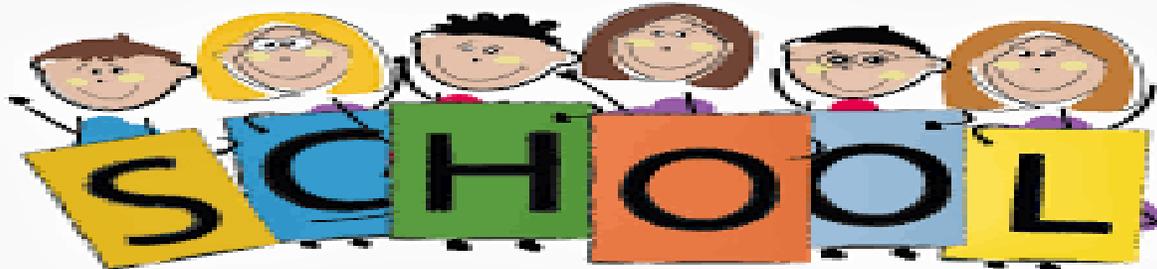
*3. Newspaper headlines are normally written in simple present tense.*

Ex- Army conducts random temperature checks in Colombo.

## 4. *CONDITIONAL SENTENCES-*

**Zero condition** - If you heat metal, it expands.

**First condition** - If we practice hard, we will win the match.



		Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
singular	1 <sup>st</sup> person	I work	Do I work?	I don't work.
	2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You work	Do you work?	You don't work.
	3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He, She ,It works Ramya works	Does he, she ,it work? Does Ramya work?	He , She, It doesn't work. Ramya doesn't work.
plural	1 <sup>st</sup> person	We work	Do we work?	We don't work.
	2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You work	Do you work?	You don't work
	3 <sup>rd</sup> person	They work	Do they work?	They don't work

## Affirmative

Ram is a teacher.

They are my friends.

He reads a newspaper

They work in a bank.

***All these underline words are in the simple present tense.***

I	- am
He, She, It	- is
We, They, You	- are

If the subject is **third person singular**, we use **-s form** of the verb.

ex :- He reads a newspaper.

Ann works in a bank.

She does her work on time.

If the subject is **1<sup>st</sup> person singular or plural, second person or third person plural** we use the **non -s form (stem)** of the verb.

ex :- I read newspapers daily.

They work in a bank.

All the students in my class do their homework daily.



# Interrogative

If the subject is **third person singular**,

**Does + subject + verb( stem)**

ex :- She prepares the lunch → Does she prepare the lunch ?

If the subject is **1<sup>st</sup> person singular or plural, second person or third person plural**,

**Do + subject + verb (stem)**

ex:- They live in London. → Do they live in London ?

# Negative

If the subject is **third person singular**,

**does not + verb (stem)**

ex:- She prepares lunch. → She does not prepare lunch.

If the subject is **1<sup>st</sup> person singular or plural, second person or third person plural**,

**do not+ verb (stem)**

ex:- They live in London. → They do not live in London.

# Present Simple

Choose the right option.

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ a tricycle.  
a. ride  
b. riding  
c. rides



2. He \_\_\_\_\_ to school.  
a. walks  
b. walk  
c. walking



3. He \_\_\_\_\_ with his pet.  
a. playing  
b. play  
c. plays



4. He \_\_\_\_\_ the flower.  
a. watering  
b. waters  
c. water



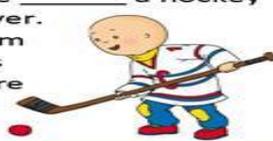
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ hiking.  
a. loves  
b. loving  
c. love



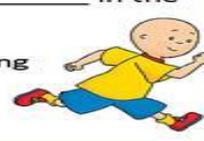
6. He \_\_\_\_\_ seashells.  
a. collects  
b. collect  
c. collecting



7. He \_\_\_\_\_ a hockey player.  
a. am  
b. is  
c. are



8. He \_\_\_\_\_ in the park.  
a. runs  
b. running  
c. run



9. He \_\_\_\_\_ his mother.  
a. helping  
b. help  
c. helps



10. He \_\_\_\_\_ butterflies.  
a. catch  
b. catching  
c. catches



11. He \_\_\_\_\_ the bird house.  
a. paints  
b. painting  
c. paint



12. He \_\_\_\_\_ an ice cream.  
a. eat  
b. eats  
c. eating



13. He \_\_\_\_\_ confused.  
a. feels  
b. feeling  
c. feel



14. He \_\_\_\_\_ a rubber swimming pool.  
a. have got  
b. has got  
c. having got



15. He \_\_\_\_\_ gardening.  
a. like  
b. liking  
c. likes



16. He \_\_\_\_\_ skiing.  
a. hates  
b. hate  
c. hating



17. They \_\_\_\_\_ to the park on Sundays.  
a. going  
b. goes  
c. go



18. His mother \_\_\_\_\_ the newspaper.  
a. reads  
b. read  
c. reading



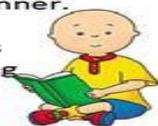
19. He \_\_\_\_\_ his grandparents at six.  
a. call  
b. calls  
c. calling



20. He \_\_\_\_\_ goodbye.  
a. waves  
b. waving  
c. wave



21. He \_\_\_\_\_ before dinner.  
a. study  
b. studies  
c. studying



22. He \_\_\_\_\_ dinner.  
a. cook  
b. cooking  
c. cooks



23. He \_\_\_\_\_ a bath before going to bed.  
a. taking  
b. takes  
c. take



24. They \_\_\_\_\_ to bed at ten.  
a. goes  
b. going  
c. go





## Activity - Underline the correct verb form.

1. *Emily (live/lives) with her parents.*
2. *Cows (feeds/feed) on grass.*
3. *India (put/puts) forward peace plan.*
4. *Rohan and Sonia (like/likes) to play tennis.*
5. *Mary (do not know/ does not know) French.*
6. *(Do / Does) you like classical music ?*
7. *(Do/Does) the baby take a nap ?*
8. *Stagnant water (breed/breeds) mosquitoes.*
9. *If Ann (work/works) hard she can pass the exam.*
10. *They (is/are) in my class.*

# -Wh questions in the simple present tense-

## Examples

1. What time does the train arrive ?

The train arrives at 2.30 pm.

2. How many children do they have ?

They have two children.

3. What does he do ?

He does his homework.

4. Who is your best friend ?

My best friend is shan.

5. How often does she go to market?

She goes to the market twice a week.

## -ACTIVITY -

Use the correct question word and the simple present to make questions. The underline words are the answers to the questions.

EX:- Where does he live ?    He lives in America.

1. ....

He speaks four languages.

2. ....

She lives with her roommate.

3.....

I go to bed at 11.00 pm.

4. ....

They eat vegetables for dinner every day.

5.....

She doesn't want to go to a movie because she is very tired.



E. Complete the blanks with the **negative** or the **interrogative** form of the Present Simple of the verbs in brackets.

**Mark:** Hi, Tess! What are you doing?

**Tess:** I'm watching the football team.

**Mark:** Do you watch (watch) them every day?

**Tess:** No, I don't. They \_\_\_\_\_ (not play) every day. They play four times a week.

**Mark:** \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a favourite player?



C. Complete the blanks with the Present Simple of the verbs in the box.

go work ride deliver love jog rest fish walk

Mr Letty is a postman. He doesn't work in the post office. He always **works** outside in the streets. He \_\_\_\_\_ letters to all the people in the neighbourhood every day. He doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ but he \_\_\_\_\_ his motorbike.

At the weekend, Mr Letty doesn't work.

He \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ the countryside, so he always \_\_\_\_\_ to his country house with his wife. Mr and Mrs Letty \_\_\_\_\_ in the river and they \_\_\_\_\_ in the woods every weekend.



# This is my house!

Read the text carefully.

Hello! My name is Peter and this is my house.

My house is quite big. It has got two floors - a ground floor and a first floor. It has also got an attic and a basement.

On the ground floor there is the hall, the kitchen, a pantry, the living room, a big dining room and a toilet.

On the first floor there are three bedrooms, one bathroom and a big corridor. My bedroom is between my parents' bedroom and the bathroom. My sister's bedroom is in front of mine.

I love my bedroom, but I also like the attic. In the attic I keep some of my books and my old toys. I like to spend my time there because it is very spacious and there is a big sofa there where I sometimes take a nap.

In the basement is where we keep the washing machine, the drying machine and old stuff.

At the back of the house there is also the garage, where my parents park the family car, and a lovely garden, with many green spaces, flowers, two swings and a small swimming-pool.

I love my house! It's very comfortable and cozy.



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**A**

Fill in the table about Peter's house

Peter's house	
Number of floors	
Rooms on the ground floor.	
Rooms on the first floor	

**B**

Match the antonyms.

big	•	•	new
love	•	•	crampy
old	•	•	hate
spacious	•	•	unpleasant
back	•	•	small
comfortable	•	•	front
cozy	•	•	uncomfortable

**C**

Answer the questions about the text.

- Is Peter's house big or small?  
.....
- How many floors are there?  
.....
- Has his house got an attic?  
.....
- Where is the living room?  
.....
- Where is his bedroom?  
.....
- Why does he like to be in the attic?  
.....
- Where are the washing and drying machines?  
.....
- Has Peter's house got a garage?  
.....
- What can you find in the garden?  
.....
- How many bedrooms are there in his house?  
.....
- Does Peter like his house?  
.....

# Present Simple 3rd person, positive, negative and questions

## I. Write the 3rd person singular of the verbs:

- |                       |                          |                       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I join - he joins  | 2. I like - he .....     | 3. I kiss - he .....  |
| 4. I fly - he .....   | 5. I watch - he .....    | 6. I enjoy - he ..... |
| 7. I talk - he .....  | 8. I go - he .....       | 9. I teach - he ..... |
| 10. I buy - she ..... | 11. I finish - she ..... | 12. I cry - she ..... |

## II. Use the verbs in brackets to complete the sentences, as in the example:

- I live. (live) in Edinburgh.
- He ..... (do) his homework every evening.
- She's a teacher. She ..... (work) at primary school.
- "Are you a singer?" "No, I'm a pilot. I ..... (fly) aeroplanes.
- Joan ..... (wash) her hair every day.
- The museum ..... (close) at seven in the evening.
- Daniel ..... (brush) his teeth every morning.
- She ..... (study) Science at university.
- Every Saturday, Paul ..... (give) his dog a bath.
- In the mornings, Betty ..... (take) her sister to school.
- We ..... (go) to the swimming pool at the weekend.
- John and Mary ..... (have) a cup of tea in the afternoon.



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## III. Use the prompts to write sentences, as in the example:

- he / every day / work / on the computer → He works on the computer every day.
- Susana / at the weekend / do her laundry → .....
- My friends and I / at the weekend / go fishing → .....
- he / every morning / read the newspaper → .....
- Sharon / exercise / in the morning → .....
- dinner / they / at 7:30 / eat → .....

## IV. Write questions and negations as in the example.

- Tom lives in England. → Does Tom live in England? Tom doesn't live in England.
- Mr Simpson teaches Chemistry. → .....
- You like playing computer games. → .....
- John and Sue work in a café. → .....
- We do the shopping on Saturdays. → .....
- The baby cries all the time. → .....



## V. Fill in do / don't, does / doesn't.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Sam speaks French, but he ..... Speak Russian.  | 2. Ann ..... like jazz music but she likes pop music. |
| 3. "..... she play the saxophone?" "No, she ....." | 4. Where ..... you work?                              |
| 5. He ..... go to school on Sunday.                | 6. What ..... you have for dinner?                    |

## VI. Match the questions to the answers.

- |                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. What time does she get up?         | A. She goes to bed at 10:00. |
| 2. How does she go to school?         | B. She walks to school.      |
| 3. Does she have breakfast every day? | C. She gets up at 7:00.      |
| 4. What does she do in the afternoon? | D. No, she doesn't.          |
| 5. When does she go to bed?           | E. She does her homework.    |



☺ Good luck ☺



Stay home...  
Stay safe.....



THANK YOU