

ENGLISH 2022-2023: GRAMMAR –2-b: THE PRESENT

I-Present Simple Tense

The simple present is a **verb tense** with two main uses. We use the simple present tense when an action is happening right now, or when it happens regularly (or unceasingly, which is why it's sometimes called present indefinite).

Form: Depending on the person, the simple present tense is formed by using the root form or by adding -s or -es to the end.

Usages of the present tense

1- **To describe habits, timetables, repeated actions or events:**

□ She **usually** wakes up at 6 o'clock.

2- **To talk about general truths:**

□ The Sun rises in the East

3- **To give instructions or directions:**

□ Don't open that box. Throw it away.

4- **To talk about something that is fixed in the future:**

□ The bus leaves at 8 pm. Hurry up!

Positive

I/ you/ we/ they

I/ you/ we/ they + bare infinitive

We go to bed early

He/ she/ it/ James

He/ she/ it/ James + Verb – s/ es

She goes to bed early.

Negative

I/ you/ we/ they + do not + bare infinitive

Do not = don't

They don't go to bed early.

He/ she/ it/ James + does not + bare infinitive

Does not = doesn't

James doesn't go to bed early.

Interrogative

Do + I/ you/ we/ they + bare infinitive?

Do they go to bed early?

Does + he/ she/ it/ James + bare infinitive?

Does she go to bed early?

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Signal words:

Always, usually, often, sometimes, seldom, never, every day, every week, every month, every year, on Sundays, after school, before school

Examples

She **always** carries an umbrella

I **usually** get up early

Usually, the class begins at 9 am

He **often** visits his grandparents.

They **sometimes** go to the cinema. I **sometimes** read foreign periodicals

He **seldom** gets angry.

He **never** gets angry.

He goes to school **every day**

Susie studies English **every night**

We go to the park **on Sundays**

Lucy plays the guitar **after school**

Days of the Week and Times of the Day

Days of the week are often used with 's' when we talk about repeated actions.

We don't eat meat on Fridays.

I play tennis on Saturdays.

Do you mind working on Sundays?

Times of the day

We usually use at with clock times.

The train arrives at 3.30.

We use in with parts of the day.

He plays tennis in the evening.

He gets up early in the morning.

Days of the week

We use on with particular days.

See you on Monday.

Negative Sentence Formula

- Subject + helping verb ("does" or "do") + not + 1st form of verb + object

Note:

- In negative sentence of Present Simple Tense, helping verb "does" or "do" alongwith "not" is used. If the subject in a sentence is "he, she, it or singular proper noun" then "does not" is used. In case of "I, we, you, they or plural subjects" "do not" is used in place of "does not".
- 1st form of verb is used and "s" or "es" is not added to it.
- If we use 'never', we have to put it before verb and in this case "do not" or "does not" are not used in the sentence.

For most regular verbs, you put the negation of the verb before the verb.

Examples :

Present Indefinite Tense negative sentences examples

1. She does not cook food.
2. They do not play cricket.
3. He never tells a lie.

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Interrogative Sentence Formula

- Helping verb ("*Does*" or "*Do*") + subject + (1st form of verb) + object

Note:

- In interrogative sentence of Present Simple Tense, helping verb "*Do*" or "*Does*" is placed at the beginning of sentence. If the subject in a sentence is "he, she, it or singular proper noun" then "*Does*" is used. In case of "I, we, you, they or plural subjects" "*Do*" is used in place of "*Does*".
- 1st form of verb is used and "s" or "es" is not added to it.

Examples

Simple Present Tense interrogative sentences examples.

1. Does she cook food?
2. Do they play cricket?
3. How does she cook food?

Note:

- The words "what, where, when, how, etc." will be used before "*do*" or "*does*" in such kind of interrogative sentences.

Interrogative Negative Sentence Formula

- Helping verb ("*Does*" or "*Do*") + subject + not + (1st form of verb) + object

Note:

- In Present Simple Tense, interrogative negative sentences are just like interrogative affirmative sentences with only use of "*not*" after subject.

Examples

Simple Present Tense interrogative negative sentences examples.

1. Does she not cook food?
2. Do they not play cricket?

Rule: Must put Question Mark (?) in the end of interrogative and negative interrogative sentences.

The verb to be is irregular:

First-person singular: *I am*

Second-person singular: *You are*

Third-person singular: *He/she/it is*

First-person plural: *We are*

Second-person plural: *You are*

Third-person plural: *They are*

Next, here's the negative. It's very easy. You only add 'not'.

Negative

Negative short form

I am not

you are not

he is not

she is not

it is not

we are not

they are not

I'm not

you aren't

he isn't

she isn't

it isn't

we aren't

they aren't