

## Present Simple Tense

### Introduction

1) We use the present simple when we talk about things in general. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general:

*Jane works as a barista. Her shift begins at 7 a.m.*

2) The present simple is formed with the bare infinitive form of the verb. We add -s in the third person singular (*he/she/it*).

*I **like** apples but my father **likes** grapes.*

Verbs ending in *o, s, ch, sh, x* add -es for the third person singular.

*My sister **watches** TV in the evening and my brother **does** his homework.*

Such verbs as *to be* and *to have* are irregular.

<i>I am</i>	<i>we are</i>		<i>I have</i>	<i>we have</i>
<i>you are</i>	<i>you are</i>		<i>you have</i>	<i>you have</i>
<i>he/she/it is</i>	<i>they are</i>		<i>he/she/it has</i>	<i>they have</i>

Note the difference between British English and American English.

*(BrE) I have got a car. (Present Perfect)*

*(AmE) I have a car. (Present Simple)*

Questions are formed with *do* and the bare infinitive form of the verb. The third person singular is formed with *does*. Negatives are formed with *do not* and the bare infinitive form of the verb.

The third person singular is formed with *does not* and the bare infinitive form of the verb.

*(+) He gets up at 6 o'clock every morning.*

*(-) He does not get up at 6 o'clock every morning. He gets up at 7.*

*(?) Does he get up at 6 o'clock every morning?/When does he get up?*

Some **time markers** can explain how often someone does an action, or something happens. These **time markers** are *always, often, usually, sometimes, rarely, never, every day etc.*

*I **usually** cook at home but my friend **always** eats at the local cafe.*

Note that in the above examples time markers come before the verb. With the verb *to be* the time marker comes after it.

*Kim is **always** late for classes.*

### Short Story Dialogue

The present simple is widely used in daily life.

– *Hello! **What's your name?***

– *Oh, hi, **my name's Sarah.** And yours?*

– ***I'm Alex.** Nice to meet you, Sarah!*

– *Nice to meet you too! So, **where do you come from?***

– ***I come from Germany.** And where are you from?*

– ***I'm from the UK.***

– *Oh, **I have a lot of friends from the UK.** You probably have a great sense of **humour.***

– ***I'm not sure about that! I don't always get our jokes.***

– ***You're an exception then!***

– ***I'll take that as a compliment.***

**Independent Practice - Present simple tense**

**1) Underline the correct phrase.**

a. Excuse me, <i>do you know/does you know</i> the time?
b. My sister <i>always is/is always</i> in a hurry.
c. What time <i>you go/do you go</i> to bed on Fridays?

**2) Write the correct sentence.**

a. Kelly (to stay/often) at home on Saturdays to work on her projects.	..... .....
b. Her brother (not to use) the Internet. He (to like) everything the old-fashioned way.	..... .....
c. When (you/to get) home? We need to talk.	..... .....
d. (you/to know) Lucy? She (to be) my friend from college.	..... .....

**3) Answer the questions.**

a. What do you do for a living?	..... .....
b. What are your hobbies?	..... .....
c. What does your typical Sunday look like?	..... .....

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### Independent Practice: Answers - Present simple tense

#### 1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. Excuse me, do you know the time?
- b. My sister is always in a hurry.
- c. What time do you go to bed on Fridays?

#### 2) Write the correct sentence

- a. Kelly **often stays** at home on Saturdays to work on her projects.
- b. Her brother **doesn't use** the Internet. He **likes** everything the old-fashioned way.
- c. When **do you get** home? We need to talk.
- d. **Do you know** Lucy? She **is** my friend from college.

#### 3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I work as a teacher. I teach 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.
- b. I like painting and reading. I sometimes go hiking.
- c. I wake up really late, have a big breakfast, and watch TV all day.