

Topic of the Lecture: The Present Simple Tense

Level: First Grade – Educational and Psychological Sciences Department.

Subject: English Texts

Topic: Present Simple Tense

Time : 60–90 minutes

Introduction

The **Present Simple Tense** is one of the most widely used tenses in the English language. It is usually used to talk about the things that happen **regularly**, the things that are **generally true**, and the situations that are **long -lasting** or **permanent**.

Examples:

- I **go** to college every day.
- She **works** in a bank .
- They **live** in Egypt.
- The sun **rises** in the east.
- The earth **moves** around the sun .

The **Present Simple** is particularly very important because it is frequently used in everyday conversation and communication, academic writing, descriptions, and general statements.

Form of the Present Simple

1-. Affirmative Sentences

The basic structure of this form is:

With I, You, We, They:

Subject + base form of verb + complement

Examples:

- I **study** French.
- You **work** hard.
- We **live** in Egypt
- They **play** tennis .

With He, She, It:

Subject + verb + -s/-es/-ies + complement

Examples:

- He **studies** English.
- She **works** in a hospital .
- Ali **plays** volleyball .
- The baby **cries** at night.

Important Rule

With **he, she, and it**, the main verb usually takes **-s**.

I work.

He works.

They play.

She plays.

We study.

She studies.

Spelling Rules for the Third-Person Singular

When the subject is **he, she, or it**, you need to change the verb.

Rule number 1: Most verbs → add (s).The following table shows this rule .

Base Verb	Third Person
work	works
play	plays
read	reads
eat	eats
speak	speaks

Examples:

- He **works** at a hospital .
- She **reads** newspapers .
- Ali **plays** football.
- She speaks English.

Rule number 2: Verbs ending in -s, -sh, -ch, -x, or -o → add -es .The following table demonstrates this rule.

Base Verb	Third Person
wash	washes
watch	watches
teach	teaches
go	goes
fix	fixes
miss	misses

Examples:

- She **watches** movies .
- He **teaches** Biology .
- She **goes** to university.
- Ali **washes** his car.

Rule number 3: Consonant + y → change y to (ies) .

For example:

study → studies

try → tries

carry → carries

cry → cries

Example:

- I **study** English.
- She **studies** English.

Yet , if there is a **vowel before y**, simply add **-s**: for examples:

play → plays
 enjoy → enjoys
 stay → stays

Negative Sentences

To make negative sentences in the Present Simple, we use the following :

1-I / You / We / They:

Subject + do not (don't) + base verb

Examples:

- I **don't like** tea.
- They **don't study** English
- We **don't work** on Saturday .

2-He / She / It:

Subject + does not (doesn't) + base verb

Examples:

- She **doesn't like** tea.
- He **doesn't work** on Saturday .
- Ahmed **doesn't play** tennis.

Important Note :

After **doesn't**, the main verb returns to its **base form**.for example.you can't say: he doesn't **studies** English .but , you can say :

She doesn't **study** English.

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This is regarded as one of the most important rules of the Present Simple.

Questions in the Present Simple

We usually use **do** and **does** to form questions.

With I / You / We / They:

Do + subject + base verb + ...?

Examples:

- **Do** you speak Italy ?
- **Do** they live in Egypt ?
- **Do** we have a lecture today ?

With He / She / It:

Does + subject + base verb + ...?

Examples:

- **Does** he speak English?
- **Does** she work at the university?
- **Does** Ahmed play football?

Important note:

The main verbs should remain in the **base form** after **does**. You can't say: Does she **studies** English? Instead you can say : Does she **study** English?

7. Short Answers

We can normally answer the Present Simple questions with short answers as follows:

1-Do questions:

Do you like English?

Yes, I do.

No, I don't.

Do they live in Iraq?

Yes, they do.

No, they don't.

2-Does questions:

Does she study English?

Yes, she does.

No, she doesn't.

Does he work here?

Yes, he does.

No, he doesn't.

The Main Uses of the Present Simple.

Use number 1: Habits and Routines

We usually use the Present Simple for things that happen regularly.

Examples:

- I **wake up** at 7:00 every morning.
- He **goes** to university every day.
- She **drinks** milk in the morning.
- They **play** tennis on Fridays.

The most Common expressions and frequency adverbs that used with the present simple tense are the following:

- **every day**
- **every week**
- **every morning**
- **on Mondays**
- **usually**
- **often**
- **sometimes**
- **always**
- **rarely**
- **never**

Use number 2: General Facts and Truths

We use the Present Simple for facts that are generally or scientifically true.

Examples:

- The Earth **moves** around the sun.

- Water **boils** at 100°C.
- Birds **fly**.
- The sun **rises** in the east.

Use number 3: Permanent or Long-Term Situations

Examples:

- I **live** in Iraq.
- He **works** at a hospital .
- My father **teaches** Physics .
- They **own** a house in Oman.

Use number 4: Likes, Dislikes, and Opinions

The Present Simple is normally used with verbs expressing preferences and opinions.

Examples:

- I **like** English.
- He **loves** music.
- She **doesn't like** football.
- They **prefer** coffee .
- I **think** playing sport is important.

An important note

Usually, the adverb comes **before the main verb**:

She **always studies** English.

They **usually go** to university by bus.

But , with the verb **be**, the adverb usually comes **after be**:examples :

He **is always** happy.

They **are usually** late.

Important Note

We do **not** use **do/does** with **be**.for example:you can't say

Does she be a teacher?but you can say

Is she a teacher?