Present Simple Tense

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definition

The present simple tense is used to describe regular, factual, habitual, true or normal actions.

We use present tense in the following situations:

- **1- repeated and regular actions :**
- I take the bus to the university.
- The train to Baghdad leaves every morning.
- Tom sleeps eight hours every night.
- **2- for facts:**
- **■** The sun rises in the east.
- The water boils at 100 degree Celsius.
- ► A horse has four legs.

- 3- for habits
- I get up early every day.
- Jane brushes her teeth twice a day.
- They spend their weekend at the lake.
- **4- for things that are generally true**
- It rains a lot in winter.
- The students speak English in the classroom.
- The king of England lives in Buckingham palace.

Verb conjugation and spelling

- ■Using the infinitive (without to) form of the verb.
- Using (S) with third person (he, she it)He speaks French fluently.

The spelling of the verb in the third person differs depending on the ending of that verb:

1- for verbs that end in (-o, -ch, -sh, -ss, -x, or -z) we add (es)

Go = goes

Catch = catches

Wash = washes

Express = expresses

Fix = fixes

Buzz = buzzes

- 2- for verbs that end in a (consonant+ y) we remove the(y)and add (ies)
- **■** Marry = marries
- ► Study = studies
- **■** Carry = carries
- **■** Worry = worries

■ 3- for verbs that end in a vowel + y we only add (s)

ightharpoonupPlay = plays

■Enjoy = enjoys

ightharpoonup Stay = stays

■ The formula is:

- Subject (he, she, it) + verb (+ third person singular s) + complement
- Subject (I, we, you, they) + verb (infinitive) + complement

Negative Sentences in present simple

- To make a negative sentence we use (don't) or (doesn't) with all verbs except verbs to be and modal verbs like (can, may, should etc.)
- ► We add don't between the subject and the verb if the subject is plural or the pronouns I, We, You, They.
- E.g.

subject	Don't	verb	complement
I	Don't	Speak	Spanish
You			
We			
They			

We add doesn't between the subject and the verb if the subject is singular or the pronouns He, She, It.

subject	Doesn't	verb	complement
Не	Doesn't	Speak	Spanish
She			
It			

He doesn't like cats.

Questions in the present tense

- When the subject is singular or (he, she, it) we add (Does) at the beginning of the affirmative sentence to make a question:
- Does (he, she, it) eat chicken?

- ► When the subject is plural or (I, you, we, they) we add (Do) at the beginning of the affirmative sentence to make a question:
- Do they speak English?