



# Simple Present Tense

**Tutor Annotated Lesson**

## STEP 1: Assessment

- What do you know about the simple present tense?

### Useful Expressions

- How do you say \_\_\_\_\_ in English?
- Could you repeat, please?
- I don't understand.

## STEP 2: Theory

**FORM:** Conjugate the verb "work" in the simple present tense in the chart below.

AFFIRMATIVE		NEGATIVE		YES/NO QUESTION			SHORT ANSWER	
I	work	I	don't work					
You	work	You	don't work	Do	you	work ?	Yes,	I do
He/She/It	works	He/She/It	doesn't work	Does	he	work ?	No,	he doesn't
We	work	We	don't work					
They	work	They	don't work	Do	they	work ?	No,	they don't

**USE:** When do you use the simple present tense? Which sentence below is a fact and which one is a habit?

1. He walks to school every day.                      a fact                      *a habit*
2. The Earth has one moon.                              *a fact*                      a habit

**KEYWORDS:** Keywords tell you what verb tense to use. What keywords are used with simple present tense?

*every day, every night, every year,*  
*always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely, never*  
*once a year, twice a month, on Tuesdays*

### Important

- Click on "TIP" for more keywords.
- If necessary, ask for a translation.

## STEP 3: Controlled and Communicative Exercises

### Affirmative and Negative

**EXERCISE 1: Highlight** the keywords and fill in the blanks with the correct form of the simple present tense. Then, answer the questions.

1. Marie usually (eat)  lunch at the cafeteria.

- Is the sentence a habit or a fact? Why? *"Habit" because of the keyword "usually."*
- Why is there an "s" at the end of the verb "eat"? *"He" is a third-person singular subject.*
- Where do you usually eat lunch?

#### Tutor Note

- Don't ask the "why" questions if your tutee's answers are correct.

2. Humans (spend)  one third of their life sleeping.

- Is the sentence a habit or a fact? *"Fact" because it's a general truth.*
- Do you usually sleep eight hours a night?

3. Jim (see, not)  his girlfriend every night.

- Why is the auxiliary "does"? *Jim*

*The auxiliary has to agree with the 3rd person singular subject "Jim."*

- Why does the verb "see" not have an "s" at the end? *does*

*When the auxiliary is conjugated, the main verb is not, so there is no "s" at the end of "exercise" because the "s" is in the auxiliary "does."*

- Do you see your friends every night?

4. Farah often (have)  classes on Thursdays.

- Which days do you have classes?

#### Note

- The verb "have" has irregular spelling in the simple present tense.



## Adverbs of Frequency

**EXERCISE 2:** Look at the position of “usually” in the sentences below.  
Then, choose the correct word to complete the adverb of frequency rules.

Anne is **usually** at work at 7 a.m.

Paul **usually** works on the weekend.

### Adverbs of Frequency Rules

Adverbs of frequency go **after** the verb “be.”

Adverbs of frequency go **before** all verbs except the verb “be.”

## Adverbs of Frequency

- always
- usually
- often
- sometimes
- rarely
- never

**EXERCISE 3:** Fill in the blanks with the verb and adverb of frequency. Then, ask each other the personal questions and respond in complete sentences. If necessary, click on **TIP** for **Simple Present Tense- Spelling and Pronunciation Rules**.

1. She (**worry, rarely**) **rarely worries** about school.

- Why is “rarely” placed before the verb? *The verb is not “be.”*
- Why does the ending of “worry” change to “ies”? *Change “y” to “ies” with verbs that end in a consonant + “y.”*
- How often do you worry about school?

2. They (**be, usually**) **are usually** at home in the evenings.

- Why is “usually” placed after the verb? *The main verb is “be.”*
- How often are you at home in the evenings?

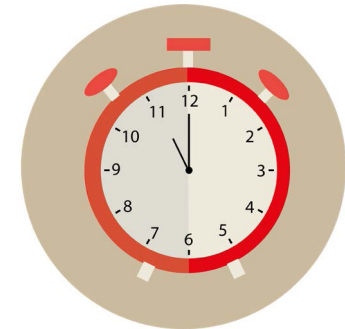
3. My father (**watch, never**) **never watches** TV in English.

- Why is “es” added to “watch” in the third person singular instead of just “s”? *Add “es” to verbs that end in “sh” and o, s, ch, x, or z. You can also demonstrate that if you just add “s” it would be hard to pronounce.*
- How often does your father watch TV in English?

## Yes/No Questions and Short Answers

**EXERCISE 4:** Fill in the blanks with the appropriate auxiliary “do” or “does” and a short answer (e.g., Yes, I do). Then, ask each other the information questions and respond in complete sentences.

- 1.** **Do** you eat lunch every day? **Yes, I do /No, I don't**
  - What do you often eat for lunch?
- 2.** **Do** you go to school full time? **Yes, I do /No, I don't**
  - What class do you like the best?
- 3.** **Does** your alarm clock always ring at 11 a.m. on Mondays? **Yes, it does/ No, it doesn't**
  - What time does your alarm clock go off on Mondays?
- 4.** **Do** your teachers give you a lot of homework? **Yes, they do/ they don't**
  - How many hours do you spend on homework every week?



## Vocabulary Review

- What new words have you learned so far today?

## STEP 4: Production task

**EXERCISE 5:** Play *Simple Present Tic-Tac-Toe*.

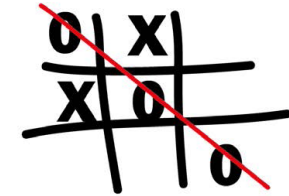
### Instructions

1. The first player marks an "X" in one of the squares and makes a true statement about themselves in the simple present tense with the vocabulary provided and a keyword.
2. Then, they ask their partner a yes/no question using the same vocabulary.

**Example:** *I rarely eat eggs for breakfast. Do you eat eggs for breakfast?*

3. The second player marks an "0" and follows the same instructions.
4. The first player to get three in a row wins.

eat eggs for breakfast	run on a treadmill	go to the library
watch the news	binge-watch a TV show	take a nap
have nightmares	drive over the speed limit	play cards



### Important

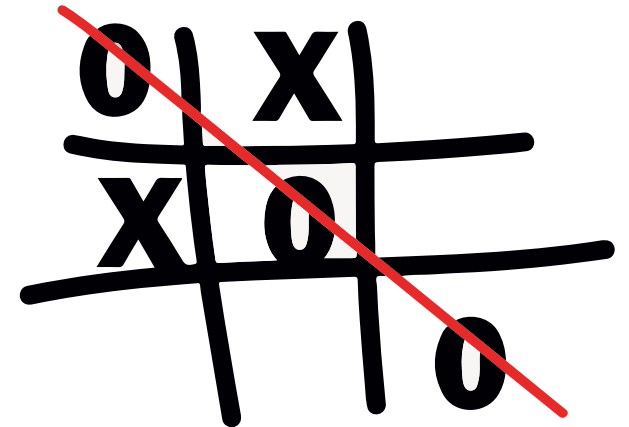
- Practise by asking follow-up questions to find out more details about each other's answers. The real winner is the person who speaks the most !

# TUTORING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

**EXERCISE 6:** Follow the same instructions as in Exercise 5, but make statements and ask questions about someone else. Decide before you start who you will talk about.

**Example:** *My brother never does laundry. Does your \_\_\_\_\_ do laundry?*

do laundry	volunteer at a homeless shelter	ski at Mont Tremblant
shovel the driveway	cook dinner	watch basketball
bake cakes	listen to heavy metal music	use twitter



## Important

- Write down the words you learned today and study them.

## STEP 5: Final Review

- What new words did you learn today?
- Conjugate the verb “study” orally in the simple present tense in the chart below.

**Tutor Note**

- Ask, “how do you say ...” questions with the new vocabulary the tutee doesn't mention.

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	YES/NO QUESTION	SHORT ANSWER
He <i>studies</i>	He <i>doesn't study</i>	<i>Does</i> he <i>study</i> ?	No, <i>he doesn't</i>

- When do you use the simple present tense? *habits and facts*
- What keywords do you use with the simple present tense? *every day, adverbs of frequency*





STUDENT TUTOR ENGLISH PROGRAM

# Simple Present Tense : Question Formation

Tutor Annotated Lesson

## STEP 1: Assessment

- Can you ask me a question using the simple present tense?

## STEP 2: Theory

- Read the definitions of the different types of questions in **bold**. Then, place the questions (see box on the right side) in the auxiliary or “be” chart under the appropriate heading.

### Useful Expressions

- How do you say \_\_\_\_\_ in English?
- Could you repeat, please?
- I don't understand.

### Tutor Note

- If necessary, ask these questions.
  1. Does it have an auxiliary?
  2. So, is it a “be” question or an auxiliary question?
  3. Does it have a question word?
  4. So, is it a yes/no question or an information question?

**Auxiliary Questions:** The main verb is **not** the verb “be.” The question has an auxiliary.

	Question	Auxiliary	Subject	Verb	Rest of Sentence
<b>Yes/No Question:</b> There is no question word(s). The answer is “yes” or “no.”	XXXX	<i>Does</i>	<i>the class</i>	<i>start</i>	<i>soon?</i>
<b>Information Question</b> There is a question word(s).	<i>Where</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>live?</i>	

**“Be” Questions:** The main verb is “be.” The question doesn't have an auxiliary.

	Question	Verb “be”	Subject	Rest of Sentence
<b>Yes/No Question:</b> There is no question word(s). The answer is “yes” or “no.”	XXXX	<i>Are</i>	<i>they</i>	<i>students?</i>
<b>Information Question</b> There is a question word(s).	<i>Where</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>John?</i>	

### Questions

- Where do you live?
- Where is John?
- Does the class start soon?
- Are they students?

- What auxiliaries are used with the simple present tense? *do/does*
- Do “be” questions have an auxiliary? *no*

## STEP 3: Controlled and Communicative Exercise.

**EXERCISE 1:** Put the words in the correct order to form questions and then ask each other the questions. If necessary, refer to the charts on the previous page.

1. have - do - you - a tattoo? *Do you have a tattoo?*
2. you - at math - good - are? *Are you good at math?*
3. you - Instagram - do - go on - how often? *How often do you go on Instagram?*
4. languages - how many - your mother - does - speak? *How many languages does your mother speak?*

**EXERCISE 2:** Refer to Exercise 1 and answer the following questions.

1. Which questions are “be” questions?  
*2 (The main verb is “be.” There is no auxiliary.)*
2. Which questions are yes/no questions?  
*1 & 2 (There are no question words. The answers are “yes” or “no.”).*

**EXERCISE 3:** Fill in the blanks with the correct auxiliary or verb, “be.” Then, ask each other the questions.

1. What *is* your favourite dessert?
2. How often *do* you drink soft drinks?
3. *Does* your mother cook dinner for you often?
4. *Are* potato chips your favourite junk food?



# TUTORING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: SIMPLE PRESENT QUESTION FORMATION

**EXERCISE 4:** Make questions to go with the answers in **bold**. If necessary, click on **TIP** for **Step-by-Step Question Formation Chart**.

1. *What does Camille like to eat for dinner?*

Camille likes to eat **sushi** for dinner.

- Ask me what I like to eat for dinner.
- Ask me what my mother likes to eat for dinner.

## Answer to Step-by-Step Questions

1. auxiliary question (The main verb is not "be.")
2. simple present
3. information questions (The answer is not "yes or no.")

2. *Is Camille a vegetarian?*

**Yes**, Camille is a vegetarian.

- Ask me if I am a vegetarian.
- Ask me if my mother is a vegetarian.

## Answer to Step-by-Step Questions

1. "be" question (The main verb is not "be.")
2. simple present
3. yes/no (The answer is "yes.")

## How much/How many

- **How much + non-count noun (money, furniture)**
- **How many + count noun (dollars, tables)**

3. *How many meals do they eat a day?*

They eat **three** meals a day.

- Ask me how many meals I eat a day.

## Answer to Step-by-Step Questions

1. auxiliary question (The main verb is not "be.")
2. simple present
3. information questions (The answer is not "yes or no.")

4. *How often are they at home for dinner?*

They are **usually** at home for dinner.

- Ask me how often I am at home for dinner.

## Answer to Step-by-Step Questions

1. "be" question (The main verb is not "be.")
2. simple present
3. information questions (The answer is not "yes or no.")

**EXERCISE 5:** Respond to your tutor's prompts to practise using the simple present tense. Answer the questions in complete sentences or with short answers (e.g., Yes, I do).

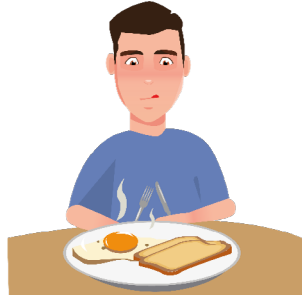
## A Typical Sunday for John

### Tutor Note

- Ask follow-up questions to encourage fluency practice (chatting about your answers).



- What time does John wake up on Sunday? *He wakes up at 11...*
- Ask me what time my mother wakes up on Sunday. *What time does your mother wake up...?*
- What time does your mother wake up on Sunday? *I wake up at ..*
- Ask me if I wake up late on Sunday. *Do you wake up late on Sunday?*



- What does John usually eat for breakfast on Sunday? *He usually eats bacon and eggs.*
- Ask me what my favourite breakfast is. *What is your favourite breakfast?*
- Ask me what my father likes to eat for breakfast. *What does your father like to eat...?*
- How often do you eat eggs and bacon for breakfast? *I eat ....*



- Who does John watch TV with? *He watches TV with his girlfriend.*
- Who do you usually watch TV with? *I usually watch TV with...*
- Ask me who my mother watches TV with. *Who does your mother watch TV with?*
- Ask me what my favourite TV show is. *What is your favourite TV show?*



- What does John like to do on Sunday? *He likes to play video games.*
- What video games do you like to play? *I like to play ...*
- Ask me what video games my father likes to play. *What video games does your father like to play?*
- Ask me if Fortnite is my favourite video game. *Is Fortnite your favourite video game?*



- What does John hate to do on Sunday? *He hates to do his homework.*
- What do you hate to do? *I hate to...*
- Ask me what my best friend hates to do. *What does your best friend hate to do?*
- Ask me what homework I like to do. *What homework do you like to do? ....*

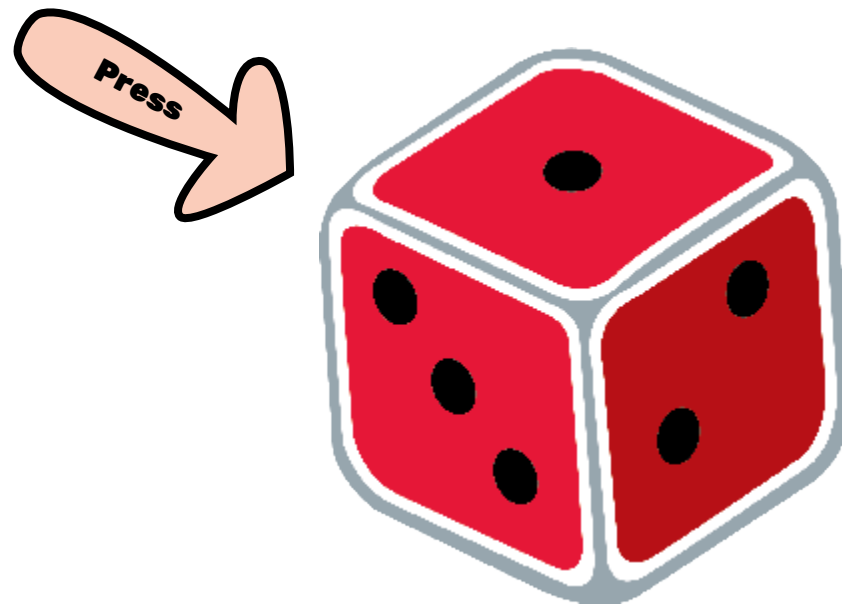
## 3<sup>rd</sup> Person Singular Review

- Describe a typical Sunday for John.
- Describe a perfect Sunday for someone you know well.

## STEP 4: Production Task

**EXERCISE 6:** Play the *Question Formation* board game. Read the instructions below before you press on the die to start the game.

- Choose a pawn and roll the die.
- Move the number of squares indicated and click on the “I.”
- Follow the instructions to make a question to ask your partner.
- Answer your partner’s questions **truthfully** in complete sentences with a keyword when appropriate. Then, chat about your answers.
- If you land on a grey square, click on the question card and follow the instructions.
- Click on the die to begin the game.



### Note

- One die
- Two dice

## STEP 5: Final Review

- What new words did you learn today?
- What auxiliaries do you use with simple present tense questions? *do/does*
- Do “be” questions have an auxiliary? *No*
- Do yes/no questions have a question word? *no*

### **Tutor Note**

- Ask, “how do you say ....” questions with the new vocabulary the tutee doesn’t mention.

### **Important**

- **Write down the words you learned today and study them.**