



GRAMMAR

THE PRESENT SIMPLE

1. HOW DO WE FORM THE PRESENT SIMPLE?

The affirmative form

I, you, we, they play

He, she, it plays

Remember the verbs in the third person singular (he, she and it) always take an "s". For example, "he **plays**, she **sings**, it **works**..."

Examples:

- Nancy and James **speak** good German
- Nancy **works** in a restaurant in the city centre

The interrogative form

Do I, you, we, they play?

Does he, she, it

Examples:

- **Do** you **speak** good German?
- **Does** Nancy **work** in a restaurant in the city centre?

The negative form

I, you, we, they	do not	play
	= don't	
He, she, it	does not	
	= doesn't	

Examples:

- No, I **don't speak** German
- No, she **doesn't work** in a restaurant in the city centre

Spelling of the third person singular

All the verbs take an "s" in the present simple when conjugated in the third person singular (he, she, it) form:

Examples:

- I visit my parents every summer holiday. But my wife visits her parents every weekend
- My brother meets his girlfriend everyday

So the rule is:

He / she / it + Verb + S

There are, however, **some special cases**. Here are the rules:

Silent e	Vowel + y	Consonant + y	Verbs ending in o	Verbs ending in s, z, sh, tch, ch
close = closes note = notes	play = plays say = says	study = studies marry = marries	go = goes do = does	miss = misses buzz = buzzes hatch = hatches finish = finishes teach = teaches

Examples:

- She **drives** to work every morning
- He **says** that he **plays** football at the weekends

Exception!

- The verb **To have** changes its forms as follows:
I **have** two sisters and two brothers. But she **has** one sister and two brothers.
I **have** = he / she / it **has**

2. IN WHICH CASES DO WE USE THE PRESENT SIMPLE?

The present simple is used in the following cases:

- Daily habits or routines: Sarah **eats** cheese for breakfast everyday; she **doesn't eat** cereal.
- General truths: Water **boils** at 100° degrees.
- Opinions: I **like** carrot cakes
- Timetables: When **does** the next plane **take off**?

3. REMEMBER!

1. In the interrogative forms, we use **Do** or **Does**:

- **Do** you like the house?
- **Does** she go to school?

2. Verbs **never take an "s"** in the negative and interrogative forms:

- Does he **speak** German?
- She **doesn't like** ice cream

3. **Don't** is the short form of Do not. You can say either:

- I **do not** speak Italian, or
- I **don't** speak Italian

4. **Doesn't** is the short form of "does not". You can say either:

- He **does not** listen to jazz music, or
- He **doesn't** listen to jazz music

WORKSHEET

1. Choose the correct form of the following verbs. Add "s" when necessary.

wake up- open- speak- take- do- cause- live- play- close- live

- Ann handball very well
- I never drink coffee
- The swimming pool a 7:00 in the morning
- It at 9:00 in the evening
- Bad driving many accidents
- My parents in a very small flat
- The Olympic Games place every four years
- They are good students. They always their homework
- My students English
- I always early in the morning

2. Put the verbs in brackets in the correct form:

- Jane (not/drink) tea very often
- What time (the banks/open) in Britain?
- Where (John/come) from?
- It (take) me an hour to get to work
- She (not/wake) up early on Sundays

3. Choose the right verbs to complete the sentences. Sometimes you need to write the sentence in the negative form:

write - turn - eat - tell - rise

- The earth around the sun
- The sun in the East
- Vegetarians meat
- A liar is someone who the truth
- A novelist novels