**Present Simple:**

**What Is Simple Present?**

The simple present tense is very common in English. As its name states, it is mainly used for talking about the present time.

**Structure**

In English, we have two kinds of verbs that are listed below:

\*Regular verbs

\*Irregular verbs

Now, let us see how each group is used in the 'simple present' tense:

**Regular Verbs:**

In the 'simple present' tense, regular verbs are used in their base form except for the third person singular. Study the following examples carefully:

\*I read a book before bed.

\*They speak calmly.

The third-person singular tense comes with an '-s' at the end of the verb. Look at the examples below:

\*Yasmine talks a lot.

\*She watches 'Friends' every night.

Tip!

Remember that when the verb ends in 'zz, 'sh', 'ch', 'ss', and 'x', we add '-es' to the end of it when it is used in the third person singular. Look at the following examples:

\*He kisses his mother every morning.

\*She does the dishes all the time.

**Irregular Verbs**

In English, some verbs are irregular and **change completely** based on different tenses used. '[**To be**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/513/to-be)' and '[**to have**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/716/have)' are irregular verbs. Let us see how they work:

| **Personal Pronouns** | **To Be** | **To Have** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [**I**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/245/pronoun-i) | am | have |
| [**He**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/247/he)/**[She](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/248/she)**/[**It**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/249/it) | is | has |
| [**We**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/250/we)/[**You**](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/246/you)/**[They](https://langeek.co/en/grammar/course/251/they)** | are | have |

Now, let us look at some examples below:

\*She is a literature teacher at school.

\*We have a tough exam tomorrow.

Warning!

Remember that if you want to change the sentence to a negative one, use the auxiliary verbs 'do' and 'does'. Look at the following examples:

\*I don't read anymore.

\*She doesn't care about you at all.

We can also use this tense in questions. Take a look at the following examples:

\*Do I have a class tomorrow?

Here, we must have an auxiliary verb.

\*Are you sick?

As you can see, we do not need an auxiliary verb.

**Present Continuous:**

What is the present continuous tense?

The present continuous tense (sometimes referred to as the present progressive tense) is often used to talk about a continuing action, something happening now (or at the moment of speaking). It is also used in other situations, such as for temporary events, however, this lesson focuses on the present situation.

The present continuous tense is formed from the present tense to be and the present participle (~ing form) of the main verb:

Positive: He is drawing a picture (to be "is" + verb-ing)

Negative: We aren't sleeping (to be "are" + "not" + verb-ing)

Wh questions: What are you doing? (Wh question + to be "are" + verb-ing)

Yes/No questions: Is she playing tennis? (to be "is" + verb-ing)

There are some verbs which we do not use in the continuous form: verbs that refer to states rather than actions or processes.

\*Senses-perception: taste. \*Mental state: forget

\*Emotions- desire: love \*measurement: cost

\*opinion: believe \*others: look, seem