

Inglés Profesional

UNIDAD

Grammar 3: Present Simple

Te formas,
trabajas



Grammar 3: Present Simple



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1. Present Simple

FORM

AFFIRMATIVE: SUBJECT + VERB (bare infinitive)

I work in a factory

3rd Person Singular: SUBJECT + VERB +-S/-ES

She speaks Chinese

We use the auxiliary verb TO DO for negative and interrogative sentences.

NEGATIVE: SUBJECT + DO NOT (DON'T)/DOES NOT (DOESN'T) + VERB

- I don't work in a factory.
- She doesn't speak Chinese. (3rd person singular)

INTERROGATIVE: DO/DOES + SUBJECT + VERB

- Do you speak Chinese?
- Does she work in a factory?

1.1. -S/ - ES / IES

When do we have to add **-es** in the third person singular of the present simple? We have to pay attention to the final SOUND. In verbs ending in these sounds/letters:

- **o** > go – goes /gəʊs/, do – does /dʌz/
- **s** > pass – passes /'pa:siz/
- **ch** /tʃ/ > watch – watches /'wɒtʃɪz/
- **sh** /ʃ/ > push – pushes /'pʊʃɪz/
- **/dʒ/** > change – changes /'tʃeɪndʒɪz/
- **x /ks/** > mix – mixes /'mɪksɪz/
- **z /z/** > buzz – buzzes /'bʌzɪz/

- **Consonant + y** > study – studies /'stʌdɪz/ | carry – carries /'kærɪz/

NOTE: We find verbs ending in a silent 'e', so we drop one 'e' and only add '-s'. However, the pronunciation is different depending on the last sound.



Recuerda

These rules also run for the plural of nouns: potatoes, buses, kisses, watches, wishes, pages, foxes, quizzes, studies...

1.2. Use

Repeated actions

Use the Simple Present to express the idea that an **action** is **repeated or usual**. The action can be **a habit, a hobby, a daily event, a scheduled event, or something that often happens**. It can also be something a person often forgets or usually does not do.

Examples

- I play tennis.
- She does not play tennis.
- Does he play tennis?

Facts or generalizations

The Simple Present can also indicate the speaker believes that **a fact was true before, is true now, and will be true in the future**. It is not important if the speaker is correct about the fact. It is also used to make **generalizations about people or things**.

Examples

- Cats like milk.
- Birds do not like milk
- Do pigs like milk?

Scheduled events in the near future

Speakers occasionally use Simple Present to talk about scheduled events in the near future. This is most commonly done when talking about public transportation, but it can be used with other scheduled events as well.

Examples

- The train leaves tonight at 6 PM.
- The bus does not arrive at 11 AM, it arrives at 11 PM.
- When does class begin tomorrow?

Non-continuous verbs

Speakers sometimes use the Simple Present to express the idea that an action is happening or is not happening now. This can only be done with Non-Continuous Verbs and certain Mixed Verbs.

1.3. Types of verbs

Normal verbs

Most verbs are "Normal Verbs." These verbs are usually physical actions which you can see somebody doing. These verbs can be used in all tenses.

Normal Verbs:

to run, to walk, to eat, to fly, to go, to say, to touch, etc.

Examples

- I go to the gym every day.
- I'm going to the gym now.

Non-continuous verbs

These verbs are usually things you cannot see somebody doing. These verbs are rarely used in continuous tenses. They include:

Abstract Verbs

to be, to want, to cost, to seem, to need, to care, to contain, to owe, to exist...

Possession Verbs

to possess, to own, to belong...

Emotion Verbs

to like, to love, to hate, to dislike, to fear, to envy, to mind...

Examples

- *Not Correct:* She's **needing** a break now.
- *Correct:* She **needs** a break now.
- *Not correct:* She **is wanting** to have lunch.
- *Correct:* She **wants** to have lunch.

Mixed Verbs

It's the smallest group. These verbs have more than one meaning. In a way, each meaning is a unique verb. Some meanings behave like "Non-Continuous Verbs," while other meanings behave like "Normal Verbs."

Let's take a look at the list of mixed verbs with examples and definitions:

Mixed Verbs:

To appear, to have, to hear, to look, to miss, to see, to smell, to taste, to think, to weigh, to be

List of Mixed Verbs**To appear**

- John **appears** tired. (He looks tired)
- Her favourite monologist is appearing at the theatre tonight. (He's giving a performance).

To have

- I have a dollar now. (Non-Continuous Verb: I possess a dollar).
- I am having fun now. (Normal Verb: I am experiencing fun now).

List of Mixed Verbs**To smell**

- The perfume smells good. (It has a good smell).
- I'm smelling the perfume. (I'm taking it next to my nose to see what the smell is like).

To taste

- The cake tastes good. (It has a good taste).
- I'm tasting the cake (I'm trying the cake to see what the taste is like).

2. What time is it?

Vocabulary Box

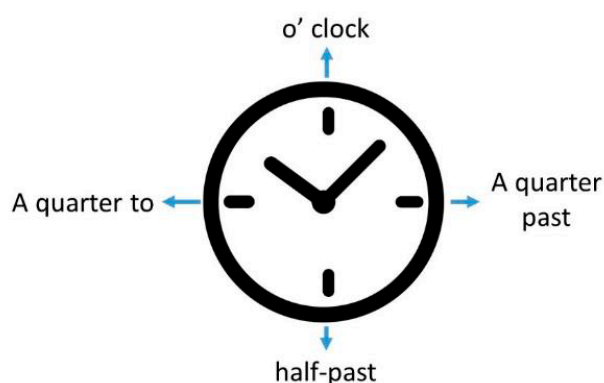
What time is it?

Para preguntar la hora en inglés, utilizamos las expresiones *What time is it?* o *What's the time?*

Responderemos directamente con la hora o con *it's* y la hora, independientemente de la que sea (en español decimos, por ejemplo, 'Es la una', 'Son las dos', en inglés siempre es *it's*).

Para preguntarle a alguien a qué hora se levanta, por ejemplo, decimos *What time do you get up?*

Para decir la hora en inglés, hay que dividir mentalmente el reloj en dos mitades, como ves en el esquema:



Cuando la manecilla de los minutos está en la mitad de la derecha, utilizamos 'past' y seguimos la siguiente estructura:

minutos + past + hora

Ejemplos:

- 10:05. It's five past ten (literalmente, estamos diciendo 'Pasan cinco minutos de las diez').
- 7:15. It's a quarter past seven
- 9:20. It's twenty past nine

Vocabulary Box**What time is it?**

Cuando la manecilla de los minutos está en la mitad izquierda del reloj, decimos los minutos que faltan hasta la siguiente hora, luego decimos la preposición 'to' y a continuación diremos la hora a la que llegaremos.

minutos + to + hora siguiente

EJEMPLOS:

- 11:35. Twenty-five to twelve (Literalmente estamos diciendo: 'Veinticinco minutos para las doce').
- 15:45. A quarter to four.
- 7:50. Ten to eight.

Otra manera de decir la hora es leerla directamente al modo digital:

EJEMPLOS:

- 14:30. Fourteen thirty
- 3:10. Three ten
- 22:00. Twenty-two hundred hours

In the morning, in the evening

Si queremos distinguir cuando hablamos de horas de la mañana o de la tarde-noche, lo hacemos añadiendo *a.m.* tras las horas entre las 12 de noche y las 11 de la mañana, y *p.m.* tras las horas que van de las 12 del mediodía las 11 de la noche. También se podemos hacer esta distinción poniendo *in the morning* o *in the evening* tras la hora.

EJEMPLO:

- 2:00 a.m. = 2.00 in the morning > 2 de la madrugada.
- 2:00 p.m. = 2:00 in the evening > 2 de la tarde.

3. Likes and dislikes

Vocabulary Box

Likes and dislikes

Para decir en inglés lo que nos gusta y lo que no nos gusta, podemos utilizar los siguientes verbos:

like, dislike, love, hate.

Like significa 'gustar'. Para decir que algo no te gusta, puedes utilizar *I don't like* o *I dislike*. *Love* se usa para expresar que algo te encanta, mientras que *hate* significa odiar.

Ejemplos:

- I like pizza.
- She doesn't like cinema. She dislikes cinema.
- My children love ice-creams. I hate rain.

Como has visto en los ejemplos, estos verbos pueden ir seguidos de un nombre, pero también es frecuente que aparezcan acompañados de un verbo acabado en *-ing*.

Ejemplos:

- I like music.
- I like listening to music.
- We love watching television. You hate doing the housework.

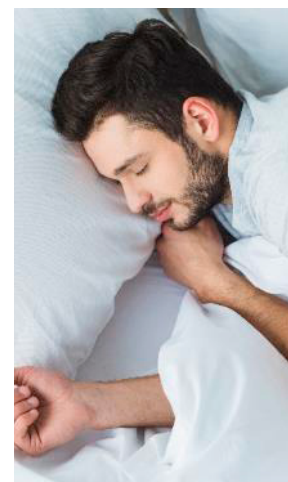
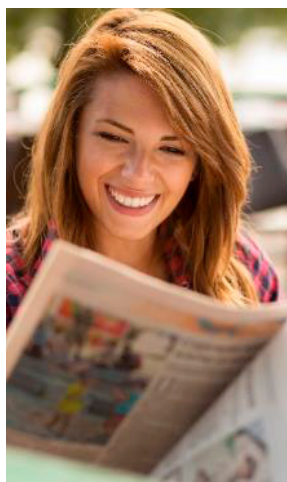


4. Frequency adverbs

Adverbs of Frequency (We use them mainly with simple tenses)

Frequency	Adverb of Frequency	Example Sentence
100%	always	I always go to bed before 11pm.
90%	usually	I usually have cereal for breakfast.
80%	normally / generally	I normally go to the gym.
70%	often (*) / frequently	I often surf the internet.
50%	sometimes	I sometimes forget my wife's birthday.
30%	occasionally	I occasionally eat junk food.
10%	seldom	I seldom read the newspaper.
5%	Hardly ever / rarely	I hardly ever drink alcohol.
0%	never	I never swim in the sea.

(*) Often: You can pronounce the /t/ or not



The position of the adverb in a sentence

An adverb of frequency goes before the main verb, except with the verb *to be*.

Subject + adverb + main verb

Examples

- I always remember to do my homework.
- He normally gets good marks in exams.

An adverb of frequency goes after the verb *To Be*.

Subject + to be + adverb

Examples

- They are never pleased to see me.
- She isn't usually bad tempered.

When we use an auxiliary verb (have, will, must, might, could, would, can, etc.), the adverb is placed between the auxiliary and the main verb. This is also true for *to be*.

Subject + auxiliary + adverb + main verb

Examples

- She can sometimes beat me in a race.
- I would hardly ever be unkind to someone.
- They might never see each other again.
- They could occasionally be heard laughing.

We can also use the following adverbs at the start of a sentence:

Usually, normally, often, frequently, sometimes, occasionally

Example

- Occasionally, I like to eat Thai food.

BUT we cannot use the following at the beginning of a sentence:

Always, seldom, rarely, hardly ever, never.

We use *hardly ever* and *never* with positive, not negative verbs:

Examples

- She hardly ever comes to my parties.
- They never say 'thank you'.

We use *ever* in questions and negative statements:

Examples

- Have you ever been to New Zealand?
- I haven't ever been to Switzerland. (The same as 'I have never been to Switzerland').

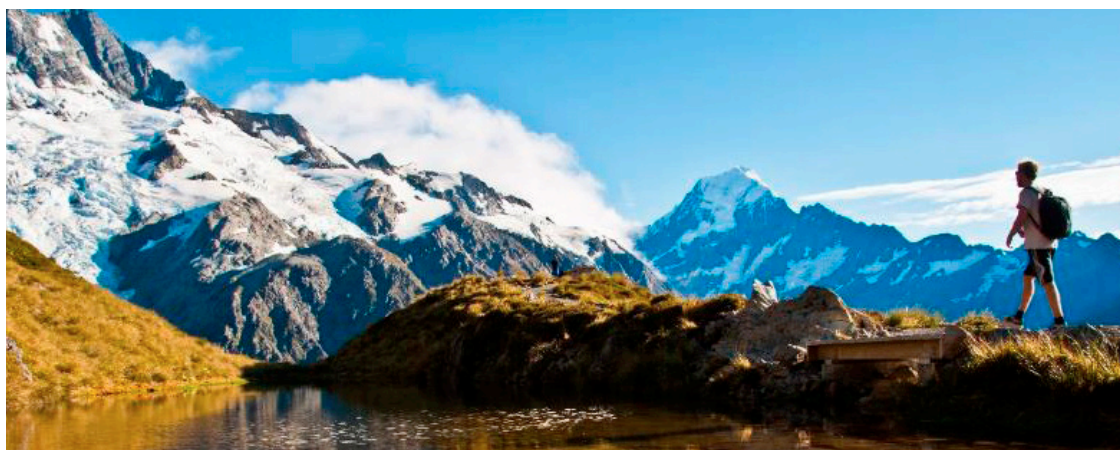
We can also use the following expressions when we want to be more specific about the frequency:

every day - once a month - twice a year - four times a day - every other week



Recuerda

If this is hard for you to learn, remember that you can always place the adverb before the main verb, except for *to be*.



Vocabulary Box

Parts of the day

Las partes del día se dividen en:

- **Morning:** desde el amanecer hasta el mediodía.
- **Afternoon:** desde después del mediodía hasta el atardecer.
- **Evening:** desde el atardecer hasta la hora de acostarse.
- **Night:** desde que ya ha oscurecido hasta el amanecer.

Good morning, Good afternoon y Good evening son saludos, mientras que *Good night* se dice a modo de despedida cuando nos vamos a casa por la noche o cuando nos vamos a acostar.

Vocabulary Box**Days of the week⁽¹⁾**

Sunday: domingo

Monday: lunes

Tuesday: martes

Wednesday: miércoles

Thursday: jueves

Friday: viernes

Saturday: sábado

Months of the year⁽²⁾

January: enero

February: febrero

March: marzo

April: abril

May: mayo

June: junio

July: julio

August: agosto

September: septiembre

October: octubre

November: noviembre

December: diciembre

Seasons

spring: primavera

autumn: otoño

summer: verano.

winter: invierno

(1) y (2) Nota: como puedes observar, en inglés, tanto los días de la semana como los meses se escriben con mayúsculas, al contrario que en español.

5. Dates

Ordinal numbers

We normally add a th to the end of a cardinal number to make it an ordinal number. Be careful of the spelling exceptions below.

Ordinal numbers

1 st first	11 th ...eleventh	21 th twenty-first
2 nd second	12 th twelfth	22 th twenty-second
3 rd third	13 th thirteenth	23 th twenty-third
4 th fourth	14 th fourteenth	24 th twenty-fourth
5 th fifth	15 th ...fifteenth	25 th twenty-fifth
6 th sixth	16 th sixteenth	26 th twenty-sixth
7 th seventh	17 th seventeenth	27 th twenty-seventh
8 th eighth	18 th ...eighteenth	28 th twenty-eighth
9 th ninth	19 th nineteenth	29 th twenty-ninth
10 th tenth	20 th twentieth	30 th thirtieth

Uses of ordinal numbers:

Dates:

- Her birthday is on the 29th

Centuries:

- Shakespeare was born in the 16th century.

Sequence/order:

- My team came second in the league.

Floors of a building:

- Her office is on the tenth floor.

31st thirty-first

40th fortieth

41st forty-first

50th fiftieth

51st fifty-first

The year in English

Years are normally divided in two parts:

- 1984: nineteen eighty-four
- 1066: ten sixty-six
- 1652: sixteen fifty-two
- 1941: nineteen forty-one
- 2017: twenty seventeen

When a year ends in a number between 01 and 09, the that last part of pronounced as the name of the letter 'O' + number.

- 1709: seventeen o nine
- 1901 nineteen o one

When a year ends in 00 (e.g. 1600), then the year is said as the digits before 00, and then hundred.

- 1300: thirteen hundred
- 1800: eighteen hundred

2000-2010

For the year 2000 you say (the year) *two thousand*. For the years 2001 to 2010, we normally say *two thousand and number*.

- 2001: two thousand and one
- 2005: two thousand and five
- 2008: two thousand and eight

After 2010

For the first years after 2010, you may hear two different versions.

- 2012 two thousand and twelve

- 2012 twenty twelve

They are both used and correct. Now, we continue to say the year divided into two parts as before.

Dates

There are two ways of saying the date in English.

The date in English

Country	Written English	Spoken English	Numbers
USA	Month + Day: March 7 (*)	March seventh	Month / Day / Year: 3 / 7/ 17
UK	Day + Month: 7 th March	The seventh of March	Day / Month / Year: 7 / 3/ 17

(*) NOTE: Even if the '-th' isn't written, an ordinal number still said.

Days: we always use ordinal numbers for the date in spoken English.

Month: Months always start with capital letters: ~~august~~ → August

Example

What day is this? **3/5/2018**

- USA: March 5, 2018
- UK: 3rd May 2018



Recuerda

7th March > that's what we write.

The seventh of March > that's how we read it.

6. Prepositions of time

6.1. In

Parts of the day:

In the morning, **in** the afternoon, **in** the evening. Not used for specific moments (night, midday, lunchtime, noon, weekend, etc. Here we use *at*)

Example

- I usually study English **in** the mornings.

Months:

Example

- She went to London **in** May.

Seasons:

Example

- I always go to the beach **in** summer.

Years:

Example

- He was born **in** 1998.

Centuries:

Example

- The French Revolution took place **in** the 18th century.

Epochs:**Example**

- Life expectations were shorter **in** the Middle Ages.

Periods of Time:**Example**

- See you in ten minutes/ **in** a week/ **in** the week.

6.2. At

Hours:**Example**

- John finishes work at 6:30 pm.

Specific moments:

at night, **at** midday, **at** noon, **at** lunchtime, **at** the weekend, **at** the moment, **at** midnight, **at** sunrise, **at** sunset.

Example

- Some shops take one or two hours breaks **at** lunchtime.

Festivities (the whole festivity)

at Christmas, **at** Easter.

Example

- Peter always visits his family **at** Christmas.

6.3. On

We use it with DAYS, including days of the week, dates, and parties taking place on a specific day.

Examples

- She often goes to the gym **on** Friday evening.
- The bank doesn't open **on** Saturdays.
- They always meet **on** her birthday.
- The course starts **on** the 12th of July 2021.
- Mary sometimes comes home **on** Christmas day/Mother's Day.

7. The imperative

Definition: Imperatives are verbs used to give orders, commands, warning or instructions, and (if you use "please") to make a request.

Example

- Give me those pens, please.

To make the imperative, use the infinitive of the verb without *to*.

Examples

- Come here!
- Sit down!

To make a negative imperative, put **do not** or **don't** before the verb:

Examples

- Don't talk!
- Do not put the pan on the table!

You can also use **let's** before the verb if you are including yourself (**let us**) in the imperative. The negative of **let's** is **let's not**.

Examples

- Let's have some lunch.
- Let's not tell her about it.

Orders

Adults usually give orders to children and to animals. It's important that you stress all words and make the tone fall at the end of the sentence:

Examples

- Sit down now!
- **Sit, down** and **now** are all stressed, and the tone falls on **now**.

Warnings

You can use the imperative to warn someone of danger. All the words are stressed, but the last word has a higher tone than the first word:

Examples

- Watch out!
- Don't cross!

Advice

When you give advice using the imperative, the words are stressed normally.

Examples

- Don't tell her you're quitting!
- Don't drink so much alcohol.

Requests

You can also use the imperative to make a request, but you should use a polite word before the verb:

Examples

- Please take a seat.
- Please wait here.
- Please hold the line.
- Please don't smoke here.



Note that an imperative sentence does not require a subject; the pronoun "you" is implied.

Recuerda

Resumen

- En esta unidad hemos aprendido expresiones muy importantes y de gran utilidad para manejarnos en conversaciones de uso cotidiano.
- Hemos aprendido los diferentes usos del presente simple y nos hemos centrado principalmente en frases relacionadas con acciones cotidianas.

Examples

- I play tennis.
- I don't work in a factory.
- She doesn't speak Chinese.
- Do you speak Chinese?
- Does she work in a factory?
- Cats like milk.
- Do pigs like milk?

- También hemos aprendido a expresar la frecuencia con la que realizamos o no realizamos dichas actividades, las horas a las que las hemos realizado e incluso las fechas, comprendiendo además las diferentes preposiciones de tiempo que debemos utilizar en cada caso.

Examples

- I always remember to do my homework.
- My birthday is November 21.
- She gets up every day at 7:30 in the morning.

Recordamos que para hablar de fechas tenemos que utilizar los números ordinales y para hablar de horas usaremos los cardinales.

- Por último hemos podido ver con bastante amplitud el imperativo, para también deshacer el mito de que solo se utiliza para dar órdenes. Hemos analizado la importancia de la entonación y de cómo puede cambiar el tono o el significado de una frase, acentuando también las palabras clave.

Examples

Give me those pens, please.

Come here!

Sit down!

Don't drink so much alcohol.

Please take a seat.

Vocabulario

- **Afternoon:** desde después del mediodía hasta el atardecer.
- **April:** abril
- **August:** agosto
- **Autumn:** otoño
- **Cook dinner:** preparar la cena
- **December:** diciembre
- **Do the housework:** hacer las tareas de la casa
- **Do the shopping:** hacer la compra
- **Evening:** desde el atardecer hasta la hora de acostarse.
- **February:** febrero
- **Finish work:** acabar de trabajar
- **Friday:** viernes
- **Get up:** levantarse
- **Go back home:** volver a casa
- **Go cycling:** ir en bici
- **Go for a walk:** ir a dar un paseo
- **Go jogging:** ir a correr
- **Go shopping:** ir de compras
- **Go to bed:** acostarse
- **Go to work:** ir al trabajo
- **Have a shower:** ducharse

- **Have a snack:** tomar un tentempié
- **Have breakfast:** desayunar
- **Have dinner:** cenar
- **Have lunch:** comer
- **January:** enero
- **July:** julio
- **June:** junio
- **Leave home:** salir de casa
- **March:** marzo
- **May:** mayo
- **Monday:** lunes
- **Morning:** desde el amanecer hasta el mediodía.
- **Night:** desde que ya ha oscurecido hasta el amanecer.
- **November:** noviembre
- **October:** octubre
- **Saturday:** sábado
- **September:** septiembre
- **Spring:** primavera
- **Start work:** empezar a trabajar
- **Summer:** Verano.
- **Sunday:** domingo
- **Take a break:** tomarse un descanso

- **Thursday:** jueves
- **Tuesday:** martes
- **Wake up:** despertarse
- **Watch televisión:** ver la televisión
- **Wednesday:** miércoles
- **Winter:** invierno

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