

# Tenses of the English Verb

# Present Simple

## A) Use:

1) - expresses **a repeated (or habitual) action** which happens **regularly**

(expressions of time: **always, often, sometimes, usually, rarely (seldom), never, every day (month/Friday)etc.**)

e.g. We **often** spend time together with friends.

He goes to the gym **every Monday and Friday.**

2) – expresses **a permanent action** or state

e.g. I live in Tomsk. My favourite author is A.P. Chekhov.

They don't like horror films.

3) – expresses **general truth, laws of nature, laws of physics**

e.g. The Earth revolves round the sun.

Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.

4) – expresses **FUTURE** (when you speak about **timetables, schedules, trains, busses, TV programs** etc.)

e.g. The train arrives at 9.30 pm.

The play starts at 7 pm.

# Present Simple

## B) Formation

+ We attend lectures every day. We **are** sportsmen.  
He attends lectures every day. Tom **is** hardworking.

? **Do** you know about the conference?

**Does** she know about the conference?

Where **do** you study? Why **does** he go to the gym?

**Is** Tom hardworking? **What is** your speciality?

- I **don't** drink coffee.

Jane **doesn't** like football.

We **aren't** lazy. He **isn't** very sociable.

# Present Continuous

## A) Use:

1) – expresses the action which is happening **now, right now, at the moment, at present moment** etc. (the action is happening at the time of speaking)

e.g. We **are talking** now. She **is sitting**. I'm **standing**.

2) – expresses the situation **around now** (this week, this month, today etc.)

e.g. I'm **reading** an interesting book. When I finish it I'll give it to you. // My parents **are building** a cottage house. They plan to finish it in September.

This semester I'm **studying** Latin.

3) – expresses **a temporary situation** or state

e.g. Kate **is staying** with her friends until she finds a flat.  
John **is hiring** a car till he buys his own.

# Present Continuous

4) – expresses **gradual development or changes happening around now**

e.g. It's **getting** colder and colder. Winter is coming.

The population of the world **is rising** very fast.

**Is** your English **getting** better?

5) – expresses **fixed arrangements in the FUTURE**

e.g. This Friday Tim **is visiting** his dentist.

Next week we **are writing** a grammar test.

6) – expresses **irritation**

e.g. You **are always losing** things.

He **is constantly complaining**

# Present Continuous

## B) Formation:

+ We are preparing for the seminar right now.  
He is having breakfast.

? Are you listening to me?  
Is he going to the lecture?

Why are you crying? Where is he going?

- They are not sleeping, they are playing chess.  
She is not crying. She is smiling.  
I'm not watching TV you can turn it off.

# Past Simple

**A) Use:** (time expressions: **yesterday**, **last** week/year/month/Friday etc., 3 days/weeks/years **ago**, **in 2015**, **when I was** 5 years old etc.)

1) – expresses **a single action** in the **past**

e.g. **Yesterday** I bought a new rucksack.

**Last week** I met John in the main building of TUSUR.

We finished our research 4 days **ago**.

2) – expresses **regular actions** in the **past**

e.g. **When I was** 10 I often played football with my friend at weekends.

3) – tells about **the sequence of actions** in the **past**

e.g. **Yesterday** I got up at 7, had shower, brushed my teeth, had breakfast, got dressed and left the house at 8.15.

# Past Simple

## B) Formation:

+ We start**ed** the new research project last month.

He was right. They were scientists.

He wrote 10 pages of his course work and stop**ped**.

They bought new equipment for their laboratory.

? **Did** you start a new project? Was he right?

**Did** he write his course work? Were they scientists?

**Why did** they buy new equipment? **Why was** he late?

- We **didn't** start the project. He **wasn't** right.

He **didn't** write his course work. They **were not** scientists.

They **didn't** buy new equipment.