



# Present Simple Tense

Grammar > Beginner 2



# Exercise 1 – Learning

## How to Form the Present Simple Tense

Most verbs in English only change in the 3rd person singular: he/she/it.

- I work.
- You work.
- He / she / it **works**.
- We work.
- You work.
- They work.



Some verbs have present simple spelling changes with 'he', 'she' or 'it':

### Verbs that end in 'y':

Verbs that end in 'y' often change 'y' to 'ie' before 's':

- **study** becomes **studies** (He/She/It studies.)
- **try** becomes **tries** (He/She/It tries.)
- **marry** becomes **marries** (He/She/It marries.)
- **fly** becomes **flies** (He/She/It flies.)
- **cry** becomes **cries** (He/She/It cries.)

**Tip:** 'y' doesn't change to 'ie' if the ending is '**ay**', '**ey**', '**oy**', '**uy**'. So, play becomes **plays**, say becomes **says**, buy becomes **buys**, enjoy becomes **enjoys**, stay becomes **stays**.



### Verbs that end in 's', 'sh', 'ch', or 'x':

Verbs that end in 's', 'sh', 'ch' or 'x' often add 'e' before 's':

- **pass** becomes **passes** (He/She/It passes.)
- **wash** becomes **washes** (He/She/It washes.)
- **teach** becomes **teaches** (He/She/It teaches.)

### Irregular verbs in present simple:

There are also a few verbs that are irregular in the present simple:

- **have** becomes **has** (He/She/It has.)
- **do** becomes **does** (He/She/It does.)
- **go** becomes **goes** (He/She/It goes.)



## Present Simple Tense Usage

We use the present simple tense to talk about:

### 1. Things that are always true:

- The Sun rises in the east. (= the Sun *always* rises in the east)
- Water boils at 100 degrees.
- The Earth goes around the Sun.

### 2. Things that are generally true:

- I work. (= I *normally* work.)
- You smoke. (= *In general*, you smoke.)
- He drinks tea with milk. (= *Most of the time*, he drinks tea with milk)



## Exercise 2 – Multiple Choice

*Choose the correct answers to complete the sentences.*

1. I \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) exercise
- b) exercises

2. He \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) write
- b) writes

3. Fishes \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) swim
- b) swims

4. She \_\_\_\_\_ football.

- a) play
- b) plays



5. You \_\_\_\_\_ fast food.

- a) eat
- b) eats

6. Students \_\_\_\_\_ questions.

- a) ask
- b) asks

7. They \_\_\_\_\_ to school.

- a) go
- b) goes

8. Lisa \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) run
- b) runs



## Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

*Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.*

**Example:** Lisa, have questions. → Lisa has questions.

### Content:

1. He, fix a guitar.
2. Peter, eat food.
3. They, watch football.
4. My sister, play.
5. Mom, write.
6. Peter and David, study.