

Contents:

	page
Present simple tense	
▪ grammar rules	2
▪ exercises	3
▪ answer keys	8
Present continuous tense	
▪ grammar rules	11
▪ exercises	13
▪ answer keys	17
Present simple vs continuous tense	
▪ exercises	19
▪ answer keys	23

Our tip: www.e-grammar.org/pdf-books/ All PDF exercises + grammar rules in one place.

Present simple tense

2

Form

Positive statement: *I play, He plays*

Negative statement: *I do not play (I don't play), He does not play (He doesn't play)*

Question form: *Do you play? Does he play?*

Negative question: *Do you not play? (Don't you play?) Does he not play? (Doesn't he play?)*

The passive voice: *The game is played. The letters are written.* (See more at Active and passive voice.)

Spelling

We only use -s ending (plays) in the third person singular.

We add -es to the verbs that end in ss, sh, ch, x and o: misses, finishes, watches, mixes, goes.

If the verb ends in a consonant and -y, we change -y into -i and use the -es ending: carry - carries, try - tries.

But: play - plays, because this verb ends with a vowel and -y.

The auxiliary verb *do* is not used to make questions and negative statements with modal verbs and the verb *to be*.

Are you a student? Is he in London? I am not at home. He is not happy. Can you sing? Must I come? I cannot swim. He mustn't stay.

If the *wh*- pronoun introducing the question (who, which) is the subject of the question, we do not use the auxiliary verb *do*. Compare the following sentences.

Who knows you? (*who* is the subject)

Which cars belong to you? (*which cars* is the subject)

But: *Who do you know?* (*who* is the object)

The negative question normally expresses a surprise.

Doesn't he work?

Use

1. We use the **present simple tense** for activities that happen again and again (everyday, sometimes, ever, never).

I sometimes go to school by bike. You don't speak Greek. Do they get up early?

He often travels. She doesn't work. Does she ever help you?

2. We use it for facts that are always true.

Our planet moves round the sun.

Lions eat meat.

3. With a future time expression (tomorrow, next week) the present simple is used for planned future actions (timetables).

The train leaves at 8.15.

They return tonight.

Present simple tense: questions

Exercise 1. Find mistakes and correct them. _____

Example:

Do your sister plays tennis? Does your sister play tennis?

1. Does your parents live in a house? in a house?
2. Do your brother and sister eats meat? meat?
3. Does Sam works on a computer? on a computer?
4. You think she is your best friend? she is your best friend?
5. Do she thinks you are her best friend? you are her best friend?
6. Do Jill's cat catch mice at night? mice at night?
7. Does Claire and Brad help in the garden? in the garden?
8. Do Tim's dogs eats chicken bones? chicken bones?
9. Do her classmates their homework? their homework?
10. Does your uncle and aunt watch football on TV? football on TV?
11. Do Mike's friend speaks English? English?
12. Does lions lives in India? in India?

Exercise 2. Wh questions. Complete the dialogue. _____

Liz is taking her English exam. Complete the examiner's wh- questions. Use why, what, where, who, how and present simple forms.

Examiner: Your name is Elizabeth. your friends you?

Liz: My friends call me Liz.

Examiner: All right, Liz. ?

Liz: I live near here. Just round the corner.

Examiner: in your free time?

Liz: I play a lot of sports. And I sometimes read books.

Examiner: ?

Liz: My favourite sport is basketball.

Examiner: basketball?

Liz: Not very often. I usually play it once a week. At weekends.

Examiner: play it more often?

Liz: Why? I don't play it more often because I have a lot of exams this year.

Examiner: Andbasketball with?

Liz: I play it with my friends from our neighbourhood. And sometimes with my schoolmates, too.

Examiner: Now I want to ask you about your friends, Liz.

..... ?

Liz: My best friend is Marjorie. Definitely.

Examiner: Marjorie, you say. Marjorie do?

Liz: She finished school last year. And now she works as a nurse.

Examiner: ?

Liz. She works at the local hospital.

Examiner: Thank you, Liz. And say hello to Marjorie. Good bye.

Present simple tense: negative

Exercise 3. Use the words in brackets to correct the wrong information. ____

Example: *Mel Gibson comes from Britain. (Australia)*

Mel Gibson doesn't come from Britain. He comes from Australia.

The Earth moves around the Sun 150 thousand kilometres away from it. (million)

.....

.....

Tourists go to Africa to see the Niagara Falls. (America)

.....

.....

People in Switzerland speak the Swiss language. (the German, French and Italian languages)

.....

.....

The Amazon River ends in the Pacific Ocean. (the Atlantic Ocean)

.....

.....

The Ayers Rock lies in the east of Australia. (in the middle)

.....

.....

The oldest skyscraper in the world stands in New York. (Chicago)

.....

.....

The tallest trees in the world grow in France. (California)

.....

.....

The cheetahs run up to 60 kilometres per hour. (120)

.....

.....

The ostrich lives in Australia. (Africa)

.....

.....

Present simple tense: third person singular

Exercise 4. Complete the story. _____

Why Samuel wakes up early

Every day little Samuel (get) up early in the morning. He (hurry) downstairs and into the backyard. Where is she? Yes, over there. His black and white kitten always (play) in the grass. Little Samuel (catch) her with both hands, (grab) her under her soft belly, (lift) her into the air and (kiss) her on her pink nose. Then he (carry) her into the kitchen to give her a small bowl of milk. But sometimes he just (watch) his kitten running on the grass. What a fast cat she is! She never (miss) a mosquito that (fly) low above the ground.

Present simple tense: mixed forms

Exercise 5. Complete the dialogues. _____

What the longest river in the world? (be)

The longest rivers the Amazon and the Nile. (be)

What in your free time? (do)

I anything. I just lie in bed get bored. (not do)

Mrs Jolie, I must tell you that your son in my lessons. (sleep)

Oh, no. It's a shame. How long ? (sleep)

Sir, that your bag over there? (be)

I think it mine. (not be)

What about your children? to the same school? (go)

Annie to school. She is only four years old. (not go)

Sue and Kam well-dressed today. (be)

Are you crazy? They well-dressed at all! (not be)

..... your husband a good driver, Mrs. Johnson? (be)

Well, I'd say that he always his best. (try)

Greg is the best player in our team. He never the goal. (miss)

Really? How often? (score)

Present simple tense

Answer keys

Our tip: www.e-grammar.org/pdf-books/ All PDF exercises + grammar rules in one place.

Exercise 1

1. Do your parents live in a house?
2. Do your brother and sister eat meat?
3. Does Sam work on a computer?
4. Do you think she is your best friend?
5. Does she think you are her best friend?
6. Does Jill's cat catch mice at night?
7. Do Claire and Brad help in the garden?
8. Do Tim's dogs eat chicken bones?
9. Do her classmates do their homework?
10. Do your uncle and aunt watch football on TV?
11. Does Mike's friend speak English?
12. Do lions live in India? (correct)

Exercise 2

What do your friends call you?

Where do you live?

What do you do in your free time?

What is your favourite sport?

How often do you play basketball?

Why don't you play it more often?

And who do you play basketball with?

Who is your best friend?

What does Marjorie do?

Where does she work?

Exercise 3

The Earth doesn't move around the Sun 150 thousand kilometres away from it.
It moves around the Sun 150 million kilometres away from it.

Tourists don't go to Africa to see the Niagara Falls.
They go to America to see the Niagara Falls.

People in Switzerland don't speak the Swiss language.
They speak the German, French and Italian languages.

The Amazon River doesn't end in the Pacific Ocean.
It ends in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Ayers Rock doesn't lie in the east of Australia.
It lies in the middle of Australia.

The oldest skyscraper in the world doesn't stand in New York.
It stands in Chicago.

The tallest trees in the world don't grow in France.
They grow in California.

The cheetahs don't run up to 60 kilometres per hour.
They run up to 120 kilometres per hour.

The ostrich doesn't live in Australia.
It lives in Africa.

Exercise 4

Why Samuel wakes up early

Every day little Samuel **gets up** early in the morning. He **hurries** downstairs and into the backyard. Where is she? Yes, over there. His black and white kitten always **plays** in the grass. Little Samuel **catches** her with both hands, **grabs** her under her soft belly, **lifts** her into the air and **kisses** her on her pink nose. Then he **carries** her into the kitchen to give her a small bowl of milk. But sometimes he just **watches** his kitten running on the grass. What a fast cat she is! She never **misses** a mosquito that **flies** low above the ground.

Exercise 5

What is the longest river in the world?
The longest rivers are the Amazon and the Nile.

What do you do in your free time?
I do not (don't) do anything. I just lie in bed get bored.

Mrs Jolie, I must tell you that your son sleeps in my lessons.
Oh, no. It's a shame. How long does he sleep?

Sir, is that your bag over there?
I think it is not (isn't) mine.

What about your children? Do they go to the same school?

Annie does not (doesn't) go to school. She is only four years old.

Sue and Kam are well-dressed today.

Are you crazy? They are not (aren't) well-dressed at all!

Is your husband a good driver, Mrs. Johnson?

Well, I'd say that he always tries his best.

Greg is the best player in our team. He never misses the goal.

Really? How often does he score?

Form

Positive statement: *I am playing, You are playing, He is playing*

Negative statement: *I am not playing (I'm not playing), You are not playing (You aren't playing), He is not playing (He isn't playing)*

Question: *Are you playing? Is he playing?*

Negative question: *Are you not playing? (Aren't you playing?) Is he not playing? (Isn't he playing?)*

The present continuous tense is formed with the verb to be and the present participle (-ing ending).

The negative question normally expresses a surprise: *Isn't he working?*

Use

The **present continuous tense** is used:

1. If we want to say that something is happening at the time of speaking. We often use it with time expressions such as *now* or *at the moment*.

I am doing housework at the moment.

You aren't listening to me now!

Look at him! What is he doing?

2. For temporary activities that are true now, but maybe not happening at the time of speaking. Time expressions such as *today, this week* or *these days* are typical of this use.

I am in London. I am learning English here.

She can't go out today. She is preparing for an exam.

You can't meet him this week. He is working in Bath.

3. For planned future arrangements. The time of the action must be given in the sentence (*soon, tomorrow, on Monday, next week*), otherwise it is not clear that we talk about future.

I am coming soon.

We are leaving on Monday.

She is starting next week.

4. With *always* to express the idea that something happens too often and it annoys the speaker.

I am always forgetting my keys.

He is always smoking in the living room!

We do not normally use in the continuous the following groups of verbs (so called state verbs):

1. Of senses: *feel, hear, see, smell, taste*. On the other hand, *look, watch* or *listen* are action verbs and can be used in the continuous:

I can hear you. - I am listening to you.

Can you see the bird? - Are you looking at the bird?

2. Of liking and disliking: *like, love, hate, fear, detest, want, wish...*

I like animals.

I hate snakes.

3. Of mental states: *agree, believe, forget, know, remember, suppose, think...*

I agree with you.

I suppose you are right.

4. Of permanent states: *be, have, belong, contain, owe, own, possess...*

This pen belongs to me.

I have a new pet.

5. Of appearance: *seem, appear, look, sound...*

It seems that it will rain.

Your new haircut looks really good.

If some of these verbs are used in the present continuous, they have a different meaning. In such a case they become action verbs.

I think he is my best friend. (mental state) - *I'm thinking of giving him a present.* (mental activity)

He has a new bathroom. (possess) - *He is having a bath.* (take a bath)

I see what you mean. (know) - *I am seeing a doctor. I am ill.* (visit)

The flower smells beautiful. (scent) - *The dog is smelling the sausage.* (sniff)

This wine tastes sour. (It has a sour taste.) - *She is tasting the soup if it is warm enough.*

Present continuous tense: affirmative

Exercise 1. Choose the correct form. _____

I an email now.

- am writing
 - am writting
-

Susan in the bed at the moment.

- lying
 - is lying
-

I in London this month.

- am staying
 - stay
-

Peter this week.

- working
 - is working
-

My mum and dad now.

- is cooking
 - are cooking
-

I'd like to know why you my bedroom.

- are tiding
 - are tidying
-

Jane isn't at home. She

- is shoping
 - is shopping
-

I can see Daniel. He over there.

- is siting
 - is sitting
-

Can I help you? - No, thank you. We

- just looking
 - are just looking
-

I am in Hastings. English this summer.

- I learning
 - I'm learning
-

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. _____

Example:

Bill today. (work)

Bill is working today.

Look. She us. (watch)

We in Paris this week. (stay)

My sister is not here. She the shopping. (do)

Please, stop! You so loudly! (sing)

It's 9 o'clock and I a book. (read)

Where is Sam? - He his car. (mend)

Paul, where are you? I outside the school. (wait)

Sarah and Sue in the street at the moment. (play)

Debbie her flat in York these days. (decorate)

Luke is in the bathroom. He a shower. (take)

The sun and we are sunbathing. (shine)

Present continuous tense: negative

Exercise 3.

Part 1. Make negative answers. Use full forms.

Example: *Are your friends cooking now? - No, they are not cooking now.*

Is your best friend eating chocolate? - No, he chocolate.

Are you drinking milk right now? - No, I milk right now.

Am I writing this test with you? - No, you this test with me.

Are your parents singing a song at the moment? - No, they a song at the moment.

Are you and your neighbours riding bikes just now? - No, we bikes just now.

Part 2. Make these sentences negative. Use short forms.

Example: *Miriam is crying. - Miriam isn't crying.*

Can you see Simon? He's looking at you. - No, Simon at me.

I'm doing housework just now. - No, housework just now.

We're jogging in the park. - No, we in the park.

Don't panic. The cats are eating your food. - No, they my food.

My little sister's playing on my computer. - No, she on your computer.

Present continuous tense: questions

Exercise 4.

Part 1. Make positive questions.

Example: *Where are you parking? - I am parking near here.*

What at the moment?

I am writing a test.

..... ?

No, nobody is helping me.

..... your friends ?

No, they are not looking at me.

..... your teacher around the classroom?

No, she isn't walking. She's sitting at her desk.

Part 2. Make negative questions.

Example: *Our teacher is speaking too fast. (speak slowly) - Why isn't she speaking slowly?*

My brother is sleeping.

Why ? (he - get up)

I am working at a hotel now.

Why ? (you - learn for exams)

Our daughter is waiting over there.

Why ? (she - wait with you)

We are flying to Mumbai.

Why ? (we - fly to Calcutta)

My mum and dad aren't doing anything.

Why ? (they - watch a film)

Present continuous tense

Answer keys

Our tip: www.e-grammar.org/pdf-books/ All PDF exercises + grammar rules in one place.

Exercise 1

I am writing an email now.

Susan is lying in the bed at the moment.

I am staying in London this month.

Peter is working this week.

My mum and dad are cooking now.

I'd like to know why you are tidying my bedroom.

Jane isn't at home. She is shopping.

I can see Daniel. He is sitting over there.

Can I help you? - No, thank you. We are just looking.

I am in Hastings. I'm learning English this summer.

Exercise 2

Look. She is watching us.

We are staying in Paris this week.

My sister isn't here. She is doing the shopping.

Please, stop! You are singing so loudly!

It's 9 o'clock and I am reading a book.

Where is Sam? - He is mending his car.

Paul, where are you? I am waiting outside the school.

Sarah and Sue are playing in the street at the moment.

Debbie is decorating her flat in York these days.

Luke is in the bathroom. He is taking a shower.

The sun is shining and we are sunbathing.

Exercise 3

Part 1

No, he is not eating a chocolate.

No, I am not drinking milk right now.

No, you are not writing this test with me.

No, they are not singing a song at the moment.

No, we are not riding bikes just now.

Part 2

No, Simon isn't looking at me. (No, Simon's not looking at me.)

No, I'm not doing housework just now.

No, we aren't jogging in the park. (No, we're not jogging in the park.)

No, they aren't eating my food. (No, they're not eating my food.)

No, she isn't playing on your computer. (No, she's not playing on your computer.)

Exercise 4

Part 1

What are you writing/doing at the moment?

Is anybody helping you?

Are your friends looking at you?

Is your teacher walking around the classroom?

Part 2

Why isn't he getting up? Why is he not getting up?

Why aren't you learning for exams? Why are you not learning for exams?

Why isn't she waiting with you? Why is she not waiting with you?

Why aren't we flying to Calcutta? Why are we not flying to Calcutta?

Why aren't they watching a film? Why are they not watching a film?

Present simple vs continuous tense

Exercise 1. Choose the correct present simple or continuous form. _____

I a letter now.

- write
 - am writing
 - am writting
-

Susan the garden at the moment.

- is diging
 - digs
 - is digging
-

Jane to bed at 10 o'clock on weekdays.

- goes
 - is going
 - go
-

I am in London this summer. I English.

- learn
 - am learning
 - learning
-

We our friends very often.

- are seeing
 - seeing
 - see
-

My brothers basketball every Saturday.

- plays
 - are playing
 - play
-

The bus sometimes in the morning.

- is arriving
 - arrive
 - arrives
-

James is a student. But he this week.

- works
 - work
 - is working
-

Lions in Africa.

- are living
 - live
 - is living
-

Our train the platform.

- just leaves
 - just leave
 - is just leaving
-

My parents TV now.

- are watching
 - watch
 - watching
-

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets.

Example:

Mary in Germany. (live) - Mary lives in Germany.

Look. I think he to us. (listen)

We at a hotel in the mountains this week. (stay)

I to bed early on Saturdays and Sundays. (go)

My mum is at the shop. She a new dress for my younger sister. (buy)

Jill a lot of money because she is hard-working. (have)

They usually on Sunday evening. (leave)

Please, slow down a little bit! You so fast! (drive)

We in Berlin for a school reunion each year. (meet)

We to discos with my classmates on Fridays. (go)

He normally on time to our meetings. (come)

I can't hear you, Betty! I a shower. (have)

Sam his English homework late at night. (do)

I usually wash up and my brother Bill the dishes. (dry)

I'm afraid my grandma is ill. She in bed all day. (lie)

Exercise 3. Make sentences with the words in brackets.

Example:

(live/here/I) - I live here.

(make/a phone call/Peter/now)

.....

(my car/I/on Saturdays/wash)

.....

(daily/practise/Joe and Bill)

.....

(I/at Oxford/study/this summer)

.....

(long hours/work/my brother)

.....

(just/dinner/have/Jill)

.....

(move/very often/we)

.....

(at the moment/Jim and Susan/watch TV)

.....

(teach/she/in New York/these days)

1. a) Oh, no! Look! What is he doing?
b) Oh, no! Look! What does he do?
2. a) She wears a new jumper this week.
b) She is wearing a new jumper this week.
3. a) Does your father and mother speak Japanese?
b) Do your father and mother speak Japanese?
4. a) Don't give him this book. I am reading it.
b) Don't give him this book. I read it.
5. a) Who does want this ticket?
b) Who wants this ticket?
6. a) Is your girlfriend having a good time at this party?
b) Has your girlfriend a good time at this party?
7. a) We spend a month at the seaside each year.
b) We are spending a month at the seaside each year.
8. a) Excuse me. What times do the early morning trains leave on Fridays?
b) What times are the early morning trains leaving on Fridays?
9. a) I can see Jane over there. She talks to Bill.
b) I can see Jane over there. She is talking to Bill.
10. a) Steve and I doesn't go out together.
b) Steve and I don't go out together.
11. a) I moved to Canada last year. I live in an apartment.
b) I moved to Canada last year. I am living in an apartment.
12. a) Is not your grandpa coming tonight?
b) Isn't your grandpa coming tonight?

Present simple vs continuous tense

Answer keys

Our tip: www.e-grammar.org/pdf-books/ All PDF exercises + grammar rules in one place.

Exercise 1

I am writing a letter now.

Susan is digging the garden at the moment.

Jane goes to bed at 10 o'clock on weekdays.

I am in London this summer. I am learning English.

We see our friends very often.

My brothers play basketball every Saturday.

The bus sometimes arrives in the morning.

James is a student. But he is working this week.

Lions live in Africa.

Our train is just leaving the platform.

My parents are watching TV now.

Exercise 2

I think he is listening to us.

We are staying at a hotel in the mountains this week.

I go to bed early on Saturdays and Sundays.

She is buying a new dress for my younger sister.

Jill has a lot of money because she is hard-working.

They usually leave on Sunday evening.

Please, slow down a little bit! You are driving so fast!

We meet in Berlin for a school reunion each year.

We go to discos with my classmates on Fridays.

He normally comes on time to our meetings.

I can't hear you, Betty! I am having a shower.

Sam does his English homework late at night.

I usually wash up and my brother Bill dries the dishes.

I'm afraid my grandma is ill. She is lying in bed all day.

Exercise 3

Peter is making a phone call now.

I wash my car on Saturdays.

Joe and Bill practise daily.

I am studying at Oxford this summer.

My brother works long hours.

Jill is just having dinner.

We move very often.

Jim and Susan are watching TV at the moment.

She is teaching in New York these days.

Exercise 4

1. a) Oh, no! Look! What is he doing?
2. b) She is wearing a new jumper this week.
3. b) Do your father and mother speak Japanese?
4. a) Don't give him this book. I am reading it.
5. b) Who wants this ticket?
6. a) Is your girlfriend having a good time at this party?
7. a) We spend a month at the seaside each year.
8. a) Excuse me. What times do the early morning trains leave on Fridays?
9. b) I can see Jane over there. She is talking to Bill.
10. b) Steve and Claire don't go out together.
11. a) I moved to Canada last year. I live in an apartment.
12. b) Isn't your grandpa coming tonight?