

# Grammar Tense Review

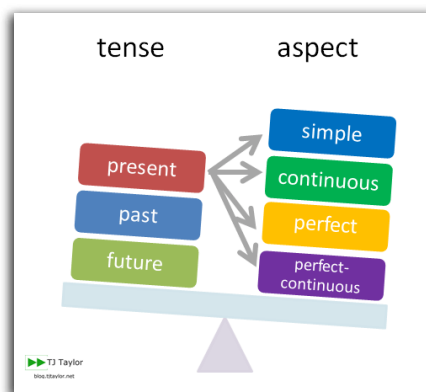
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3.7 March 2025



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# Objectifs

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**At the end of the course, students will be able to:**

- Recall and describe the forms and uses of the main English tenses.
- Understand the uses and differences between various tenses.
- Apply the correct tense in both spoken and written contexts.
- Analyze and evaluate the use of tenses in texts for clarity and accuracy.
- Evaluate the accuracy and appropriateness of tense use in context.
- Create original, meaningful texts using a range of correct tenses



# Introduction

*Tenses\** or **English tenses** are grammatical tools used to **express time in language**. They help indicate when an action takes place—whether in the **past, present, or future**. Each tense reflects a specific aspect of time and can show whether an action is ongoing, completed, or repeated. Understanding tenses is essential for **clear and accurate communication**, as they allow speakers and writers to structure their ideas logically across time.

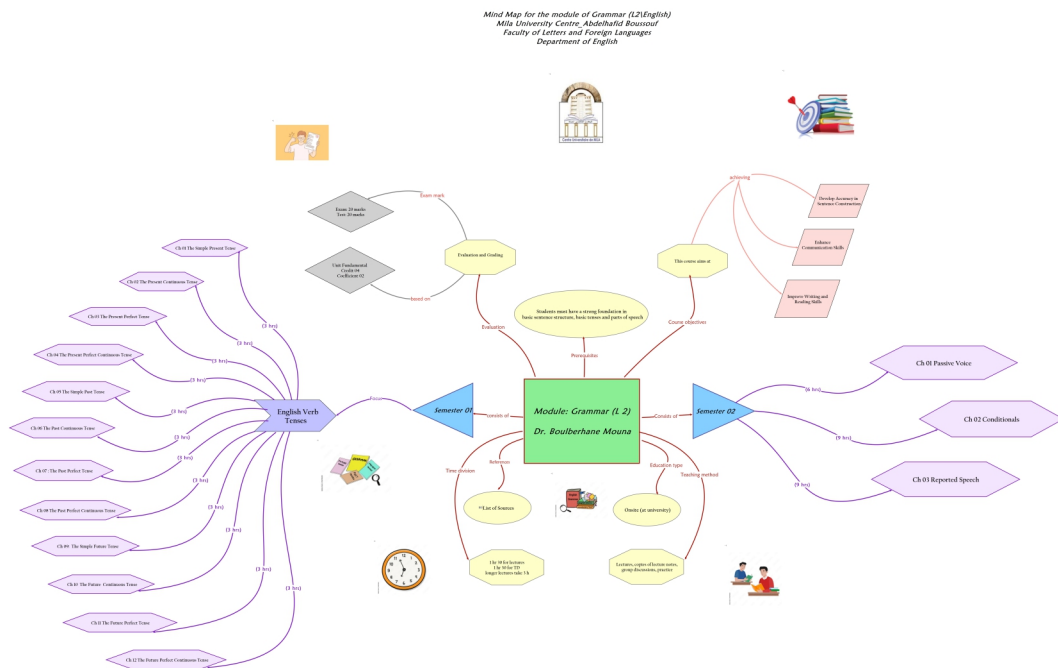
| TENSES                        |                              |                                          |                           |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| TENSE                         | PRESENT                      | PAST                                     | FUTURE                    |
| <b>SIMPLE</b>                 | Verb/verb+s<br>is/am/are     | second form<br>(regular or<br>irregular) | will+ verb                |
| <b>CONTINUOUS</b>             | am/is/are<br>verb +ing       | was/were<br>+verb+ing                    | will be+verb<br>+ing      |
| <b>PERFECT</b>                | has/have + the<br>third form | had + third<br>form                      | will have +<br>third form |
| <b>PERFECT<br/>CONTINUOUS</b> | has/have been +<br>verb +ing |                                          |                           |

| PAST TENSE                             |                                 |                                                 |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Parts                                  | Structure                       | Examples                                        |
| <b>Past<br/>Simple/Indefinite</b>      | S + V2 + Obj                    | 1.I went.<br>2.He went.                         |
| <b>Past<br/>Continuous</b>             | S + was/were<br>+V(ing) + Obj   | 1.I was going.<br>2.You were going.             |
| <b>Past<br/>Perfect</b>                | S + had +V3 +<br>Obj            | 1.They had gone.<br>2.She had gone.             |
| <b>Past<br/>Perfect<br/>Continuous</b> | S + had + been+<br>V(ing) + Obj | 1.They had been going.<br>2.She had been going. |

[www.kidpid.com](http://www.kidpid.com)

*Tenses in English*

# Overview Mind Map: Grammar Module



*Mind Map (Grammar Module)*

## A Mind Map for the Grammar Module

# Pr-requisites

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**To be able to properly follow the lesson of Present tenses, the students must have some prior knowledge, likewise:**

- **Basic Understanding of Verb Forms:**

Students should be familiar with verb forms (e.g., regular vs. irregular verbs) in the infinitive form and the base form of verbs.

- **Familiarity with Subject Pronouns:**

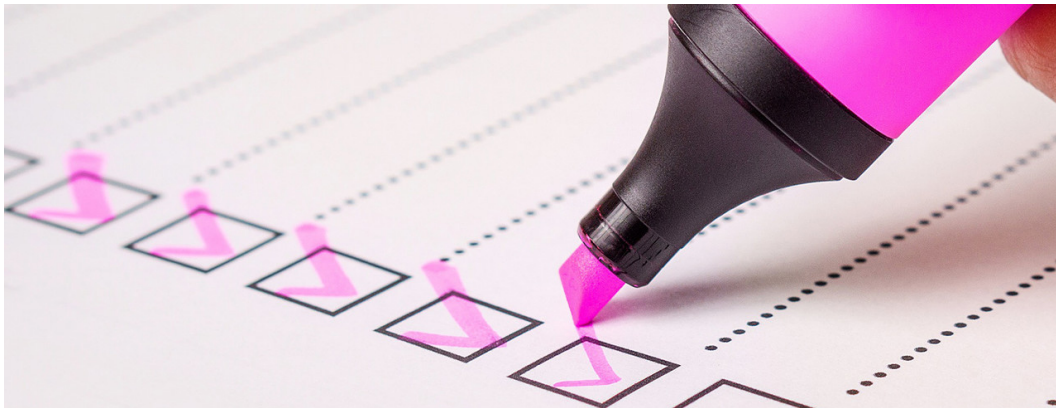
Students need to know subject pronouns (I, you, he, she, it, we, they) to form sentences correctly.

- **Basic Sentence Structure:**

Students should understand the basic sentence structure ( $S^{*+} V^{*+} O^{*}$ ), especially in simple affirmative sentences.

- **Simple Use of Articles (a, an, the):**

Understanding the use of articles can help in forming sentences correctly with nouns in present tenses.

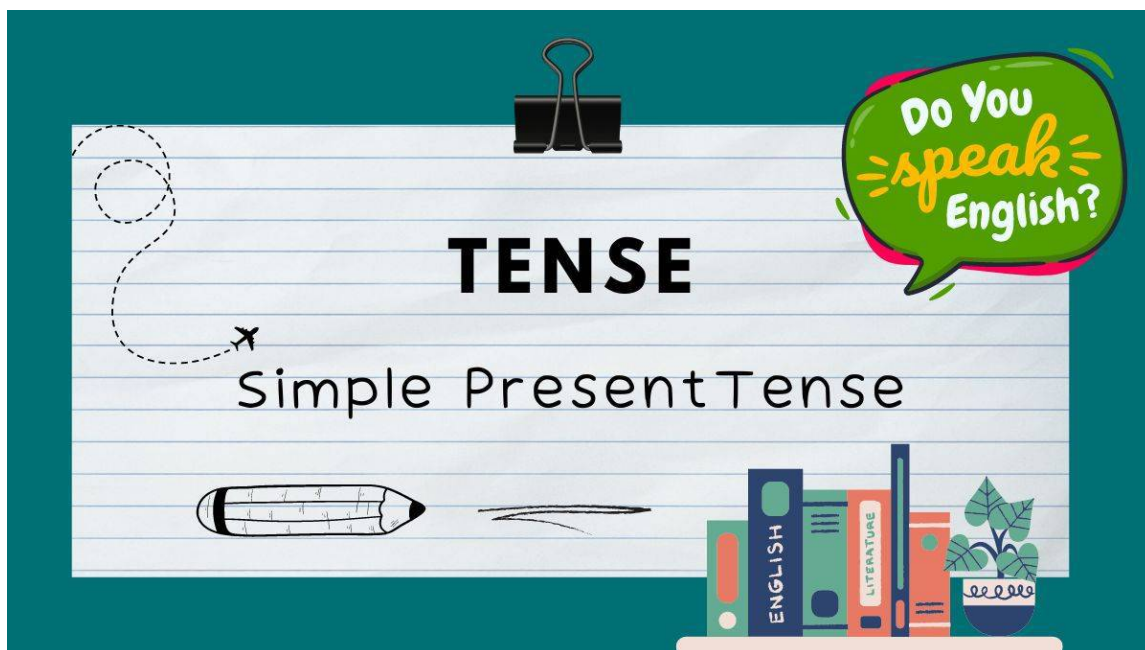


*Pr-requisites*

# The Simple Present Tense



**The Present Simple tense** is one of the most commonly used tenses in English, forming the foundation for **everyday communication**. It appears frequently in both spoken and written language.



*Simple Present tense Image*

## 1. Specific Objectives

**At the end of the course, students will be able to:**

- Recall the structure and rules of the Present Simple tense (affirmative, negative, and interrogative forms).
- Explain the uses of the Present Simple tense, such as habits, routines, general truths, and timetabled events.
- Apply the Present Simple accurately in both spoken and written contexts to describe daily life and routines.
- Analyze errors in Present Simple usage within various contexts and identify corrections.
- Evaluate different sentence structures to determine the appropriate use of the Present Simple tense.
- Create coherent sentences, dialogues, or paragraphs using the Present Simple to describe real-life situations.

**The objectives target both understanding and correct usage of the Present Simple in meaningful contexts.**



### *Specific Objectives*

#### **Warm up**

**Read** the paragraph below. Then, **identify** all **Present Simple verbs** and **discuss** what they express (e.g., habits, routines, general facts).

#### **Paragraph:**

Maria lives in a small town. She works at a library and loves her job. Every morning, she walks to work, opens the library at 9 a.m., and helps visitors find books. On weekends, she visits her grandparents and cooks lunch with them.

If you're having trouble answering the question, you can review the Present Simple lesson using the link below.

**[https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/present-simple?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/present-simple?utm_source=chatgpt.com)**

#### **The Simple Present Tense**



#### **Définition**

The **Simple Present Tense** is used to describe **habitual actions, general truths, fixed arrangements, and feelings**. It expresses **facts** or things that happen **regularly**.

## 2. Form

In the affirmative the Simple Present has the same form as the infinitive but adds an “**s**” for **the third person singular**.

| Affirmative     | Negative         | Interrogative        | Negative interrogative  |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| I work          | I do not work    | Do I work?           | Don't I work?           |
| You work        | You do not work  | Do you work?         | Don't you work?         |
| He/she/it works | Doesn't work     | Does she/he/it work? | Doesn't he/she/it work? |
| We work         | We don't work    | Do we work?          | Don't we work?          |
| They work       | They do not work | Do they work?        | Don't they work?        |

The Simple Present with wh questions:

## Present Simple: Form

WH-Question:

| Question word | to be | Subject | (adjective) | Modifier ? |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------------|------------|
| Where         | am    | I       | -           | now ?      |
| Who           | are   | you     | -           | ?          |
| Where         | is    | he      | -           | from?      |

| Question word | to do/<br>Aux V. | Subject | V<br>infinitive | Modifier ?      |
|---------------|------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| What          | do               | you     | do              | In the evening? |
| Where         | do               | they    | study           | ?               |
| Where         | does             | he      | come            | from?           |

*The Simple Present with wh questions*

### Spelling notes:

- Verbs ending in **ss, sh, ch, x** and **o** add “**es**”, instead of “**s**” alone, to form the third person singular:

I kiss, he **kisses**

I box, he **boxes**

- When “**y**” follows a consonant we change the **y** into “**i**” and add “**es**”:

I carry, he **carries**

I copy, he **copies**

- But verbs ending in **y** following a **vowel** obey the usual rule:

I obey, he **obeys**

I say, he **says**

### 3. Use

The Present Simple Tense is one of the most commonly used tenses in English. It helps us express actions and situations that are **regular**, **factual**, or **permanent**. This tense is essential for daily communication, whether in speaking or writing. We use the Simple Present in the following situations:

#### 3.1. Expressing Habitual Actions:

When talking about habitual actions, the simple present tense is mainly used. This tense helps convey actions that are **regular** or **part of a routine**. It is the suitable tense for discussing **daily habits**, **weekly routines**, or any activity that happens on a **regular** basis.



- Mr. Brown generally **leaves** the house at eight o'clock in the morning.
- I **play** football every weekend.



This tense does not tell us whether or not the action is being performed at the moment of speaking and if we want to make it clear we must add a verb in the **present continuous tense**.

**e.g.** My dog **barks** a lot, but It is not **necessarily** barking **at the moment**.

#### Time Expressions and Adverbs of Frequency

Using **adverbs of frequency**<sup>1</sup> can help specify how often these habitual actions occur. Common adverbs of frequency include **always**, **usually**, **often**, **sometimes**, **rarely**, and **never**.

Other **time expressions**\* are also used to describe **when** an action takes place, or **how often** something happens. They provide a specific frequency for actions, offering a detailed understanding of when the action occurs or how regularly it occurs.



- **Always:** I **always** drink coffee in the morning.
- **Usually:** She **usually** goes for a run in the evening.
- **Often:** They **often** visit their grandparents on weekends.
- **Every day:** She practices the piano **every day**
- **In the morning:** I read the newspaper **in the morning**.
- **Once a week:** We have a team meeting **once a week**.
- **Three times a year:** They travel abroad **three times a year**.

Here is a **mind map** illustrating the use of **Freq. Adv.\*** and **time expressions** with the **Present Simple tense**.

[cf. A mind Map (The Use of Frequency and Time Expressions with the Simple Present)]

This is a **QR code**\* that leads to **my YouTube channel**, where I shared the mind map.

<sup>1</sup> Perfect English Grammar



QR CODE FOR THE VIDEO

### Time Clauses

We often use the simple present with **time clauses** expressing routine or **habitual actions**.

? *Exemple*

- **Whenever** it **rains**, the roof leaks.
- **When** you **open** the door, a light goes on.

### 3.2. Informal Instructions:

In informal contexts, the present simple tense is sometimes used to give **instructions\***, especially when **recounting a process** or **explaining steps** in a casual or conversational manner. This is common in spoken English, or informal written guides.

? *Exemple*

- You **take** 300 g of flour and add three eggs.

### 3.3. Something that is True in the Present:

The Present Simple Tense is used to describe facts or situations that are **true at the present time**. These facts can be **generally true**, or **currently valid\***, even if they might change in the future.

? *Exemple*

- I **am** 19 years old.
- London **is** the capital of Britain.

### 3.4. Something that is Always True

The Present Simple Tense is used to describe things that are , such as natural laws, **always true** scientific facts, and general truths. These facts **do not change over time** and remain valid regardless of when they are stated.

**Natural Laws and Scientific Facts:** *Exemple*

- Water **boils** at 100°C.
- The human body **contains** 206 bones.
- Gravity **pulls** objects toward the Earth.

These are **unchanging scientific facts**, so we use the Present Simple to describe them.

**General Truths and Simple Facts:** *Exemple*

- Ice **melts** in warm temperatures.
- A year **has** 12 months.
- The sun **rises** in the east and sets in the west.

These statements are **permanently true**, which is why the Present Simple is the correct tense to use.

**3.5. Planned Future:**

The Simple Tense Present is commonly used to talk about **scheduled**, **timetabled**, or **officially planned** future events, especially for transportation, public events, and fixed schedules. This usage gives the impression that the event is definite and not subject to change.

**For Timetables and Schedules (e.g., transport, school, events):** *Exemple*

- The train **leaves** at 8:30 AM tomorrow.
- The meeting **starts** at 10 AM next Monday.
- Our flight **arrives** at 6 PM.

**For Officially Fixed Events:** *Exemple*

- The school term **begins** in September.
- The concert **starts** at 7 PM.
- The shop **closes** at midnight.

**For Events in Programs or Itineraries:** *Exemple*

- The movie **premieres** next Friday.
- The professor **gives** a lecture at 3 PM.

 *Remarque*

We use the Present Simple instead of the Future Tense when talking about events that follow a **fixed schedule** or timetable rather than **personal plans**.

**3.6. Newspapers Headlines:** *Exemple*

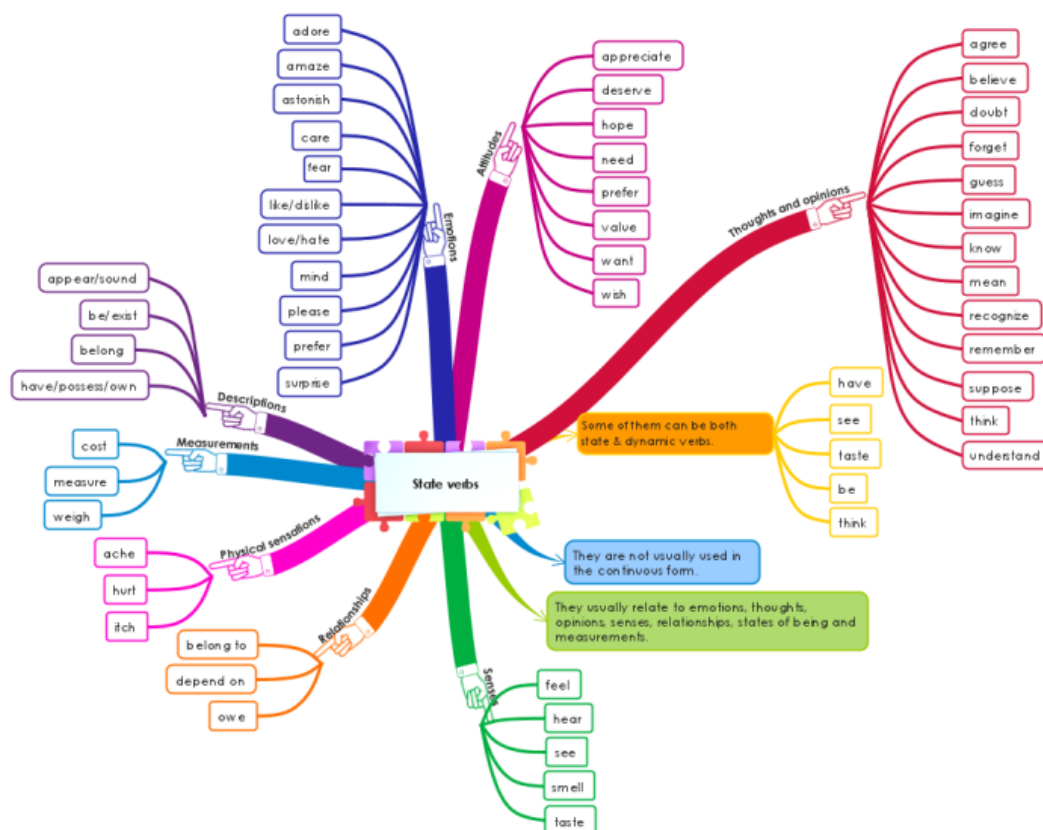
- Peace Talk **Fail**.

### 3.7. With Stative Verbs:

The Simple Present is used Instead of the Present Continuous form of certain verbs which are not used in the

Continuous (**stative verbs**\*, these are **verbs of opinion** such as believe, like, doubt, and **verbs of perception**:

see, hear, know, understand, etc.)



Stative Verbs

? Exemple

- I **believe** this house **is** haunted.
- I often **hear** strange **noises** at night.

These examples show how the Present Simple helps us describe situations clearly and effectively in everyday English.

**The Present Simple tense** is a **fundamental part** of English grammar, used to express general truths, habits, routines, and fixed schedules. It provides a clear and straightforward way to describe actions that are regular, permanent, or universally true. By mastering the Present Simple, learners can effectively communicate about daily activities, scientific facts, and scheduled events.

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°1 p. 21]



When we \_\_\_\_\_ on vacation, we never fly.

- ☐ are
- ☐ go
- ☐ went

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°2 p. 21]



I \_\_\_\_\_ four languages, but I love Italian above all.

- ☐ talk
- ☐ speak
- ☐ talks

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°3 p. 21]



Kathy always \_\_\_\_\_ about the boss. She hates her job!

- ☐ says
- ☐ tells
- ☐ complains

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°4 p. 21]



That dog always \_\_\_\_\_ with his head against the wall.

- ☐ goes
- ☐ bark
- ☐ sleeps

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°5 p. 22]



My friend \_\_\_\_\_ her eyes when there's a horror movie on TV.

- ☐ open
- ☐ shut
- ☐ closes

## Exercise : Complete the sentence:

[solution n°6 p. 22]



She \_\_\_\_\_ in Florida but prefers California.

- ☐ lives
- ☐ goes
- ☐ arrives

# Exercise : Categorization Exercise about the Present Simple Tense.

[solution n°7 p. 22]



Categorize each phrase into the correct group.

Interrogative sentence

Interrogative sentence

Negative sentence

Negative sentence

Affirmative sentence

Affirmative sentence

|                                |                                       |                              |                            |                        |                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| She reads books every morning. | I always drink coffee in the morning. | They do not work on Sundays. | He doesn't like ice cream. | Does he play football? | Do they speak French? |
|                                |                                       |                              |                            |                        |                       |

# Solutions des exercices

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## Solution n°1

[exercice p. 14]

When we \_\_\_\_\_ on vacation, we never fly.

- ☐ are
- ☒ go
- ☐ went

## Solution n°2

[exercice p. 15]

I \_\_\_\_\_ four languages, but I love Italian above all.

- ☐ talk
- ☒ speak
- ☐ talks

## Solution n°3

[exercice p. 16]

Kathy always \_\_\_\_\_ about the boss. She hates her job!

- ☐ says
- ☐ tells
- ☒ complains

## Solution n°4

[exercice p. 17]

That dog always \_\_\_\_\_ with his head against the wall.

- ☐ goes
- ☐ bark
- ☒ sleeps

**Solution n°5**

[exercice p. 18]

My friend \_\_\_\_\_ her eyes when there's a horror movie on TV.

- ☐ open
- ☐ shut
- ☒ closes

**Solution n°6**

[exercice p. 19]

She \_\_\_\_\_ in Florida but prefers California.

- ☒ lives
- ☐ goes
- ☐ arrives

**Solution n°7**

[exercice p. 20]

Categorize each phrase into the correct group.

|                                                                                |                                                                                       |                                                                           |                                                                         |                                                                          |                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>She reads books every morning.</b><br><hr/> <div>Affirmative sentence</div> | <b>I always drink coffee in the morning.</b><br><hr/> <div>Affirmative sentence</div> | <b>They do not work on Sundays.</b><br><hr/> <div>Negative sentence</div> | <b>He doesn't like ice cream.</b><br><hr/> <div>Negative sentence</div> | <b>Does he play football?</b><br><hr/> <div>Interrogative sentence</div> | <b>Do they speak French?</b><br><hr/> <div>Interrogative sentence</div> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# Glossaire

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## **Stative Verb**

A verb that describes a state or condition rather than an action. Stative verbs (e.g., know, love, belong) are typically not used in the Present Continuous tense.

## **Tenses**

forms of verbs that show the time of an action (e.g., present, past, future).

## **Time Expressions**

Words or phrases that help to specify the time frame of an action, often used with present tenses. Examples include every day, always, now, right now, often.

# Abréviations

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**Freq. Adv. :** Frequency Adverb  
**O :** object  
**QR code :** Quick Response code  
**S :** Subject  
**V :** verb

# Bibliographie

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# Webographie

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<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/english-grammar-reference/present-tense>

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar/a1-a2-grammar/adverbs-frequency>

<https://www.grammarling.com/present-simple-instructions>