



Al-Mustaqbal University
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Department



English Language

Third Stage

Unit Two

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UNIT 2

Present simple

Form

Positive and negative

I We You They	work, Don't work
He She It	Works Doesn't 'work.

Question

Where	do	I we you they	Live?
	does	he she it	

Do you live in Basra?

Does he have a car?

Short answer

Yes, we do.

No, he doesn't

Use

The Present Simple is used to express:

1. an action that happens again and again (a habit).

I *go* to work by car.

She *drinks* ten cups of coffee a day.

I *wash* my hair twice a week.

2. a fact that is always true.

Ronaldo *comes* from Brazil.

Some birds *fly* south in winter.

My daughter *has* brown eyes.

3. a fact that is true for a long time (a state).

He *works* in a bank.

I *live* in a flat near the centre of town.

I *prefer* coffee to tea.

Spelling of verb + -s

1. Most verbs add -s to the base form of the verb.

Wants eats helps drives

2. Add -es to verbs that end in -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, and -o.

Misses watches fixes goes washes

3. Verbs that end in a consonant + -y change the -y to -ies.

tries worries carries flies

4. But verbs that end in a vowel + -y only add -s

Plays enjoys buys says

Adverbs of frequency

1. We often use adverbs of frequency with the Present Simple.

0% ————— 50% ————— 100%

never rarely not often sometimes often usually always

2. They go before the main verb, but after the verb be.

Compare:

I **usually** start school at 9.00.

They're **usually** in a hurry in the morning.

I don't **often** go to bed late.

I'm not **often** late for school.

She **never** eats meat.

He's **never** late.

I **rarely** see Peter these days.

We're **rarely** at home at the weekends

3. Sometimes and usually can also go at the beginning or the end.

Sometimes we play football.

We play football **Sometimes**.

Usually, I go shopping with friends.

I go shopping with friends **usually**.

Never, always, rarely, and seldom cannot move in this way.

NOT

~~Never I go to the movies.~~

~~Always have tea in the morning.~~

4. Every day, etc., goes at the end.

He phones me every night

Present simple

Form

Positive and negative

I	I'm 'm not	eating.
We You They	're aren't	
He She It	's isn't	

Question

What	am	I	doing
	is	he/she/it	
	are	we/you/they	

Short answer

Are you going by train?	Yes, I am.
	No, I'm not

Use

The Present Continuous is used to express:

1. an activity that is happening now.

Don't turn the TV off. *I'm watching* it.

You can't speak to Lisa. She's *having* a bath.

2. an activity or situation that is true now, but is not necessarily happening at the moment of speaking.

Don't take that book. Jane's *reading* it.

I'm doing a French evening class this year.

3. a temporary activity.

Peter is a student, but he's *working* as a waiter during the holidays.

I'm living with my parents until I find a place of my own.

4. a planned future arrangement.

I'm having lunch with Glenda tomorrow.

We're meeting at 1.00 outside the restaurant.

Spelling of verb + -ing

1. Most verbs add -ing to the base form of the verb.

going *wearing* *visiting* *eating*

2. Verbs that end in one -e lose the -e.

smoking *coming* *hoping* *writing*

Verbs that end in -ee don't drop an -e.

agreeing *seeing*

 *lie lying*

3. Verbs of one syllable, with one vowel and one consonant, double the consonant.
Planning running getting jogging stopping

If the final consonant is -y or -w, it is not doubled.

Showing playing

State verbs

1. There are certain groups of verbs that are usually only used in the Present Simple. This is because their meanings are related to states or conditions that are facts and not activities. This is a feature.

Verbs of thinking and opining

believe	think	understand	suppose	expect
agree	doubt	know	remember	forget
mean	imagine	realize	deserve	prefer

I *believe* you

Do you understand?

I *know* his face, but I *forget* his name

Verbs of emotions and feelings

like	love	hate	care	hope	wish	want	admit
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------

I like black coffee.

Do you want to go out?

I don't care.

Verbs of having and being

Belong Own Have Possess Contain Cost Seem Appear Need
Depend on Weigh Come from Resemble

This book *belongs* to Jane

How much *does* it *cost*?

He *has* a lot of money.

Verbs of the senses

look hear taste smell feel

The food *smells* good.

We often use can when the subject is person.

Can you smell something burning?

I *can* hear someone crying.

2. Some of these verbs can be used in the Present Continuous, but with a change of meaning. In the continuous, the verb expresses an activity, not a state. Compare:

I *think* you're right.

(opinion)

He *has* a lot of money.

(possession)

I *see* what you mean.

(understand)

The soup *tastes* awful.

(state)

We're *thinking* of going to cinema.
(mental activity)

She's *having* a bad day.
(activity)

Are you *seeing* Nabeel tomorrow?
(activity)

I'm *tasting* the soup to see if it needs salt.
(activity)

Introduction to the passive

Form

to be + past participle

The tense of the verb to be changes to give different tenses in the passive. Compare:

The annual company dinner *is being held* next week. (Present Continuous passive)

All the employees *are invited* every year. (Present Simple passive)

Family members *weren't invited* last year, but this year they were. (Present Perfect passive)

Most people *would love to be invited* to the dinner. (Passive infinitive)

Use

1- Passive sentences move the focus from the subject to the object of active sentences. Alfred Hitchcock *directed* Psycho in 1960.

Psycho, one of the classic thrillers of all time, *was directed* by Alfred Hitchcock.

The passive is not just another way of expressing the same sentence in the active. We choose the active or the passive depending on what we are more interested in. In the first sentence, we are more interested in Alfred Hitchcock; in the second sentence, Psycho has moved to the beginning of the sentence because we are more interested in the film.

2- By and the agent are often omitted in passive sentences if the agent:

is not known.

My apartment *was robbed* last night.

is not important.

This bridge *was built* in 1886.

is obvious.

I was fined £100 for speeding.

3- The passive is associated with an impersonal, formal style. It is often used in notices and announcements.

Customers *are requested* to refrain from smoking.

It *has been noticed* that reference books *have been removed* from the library.

4- In informal language, we often use you, we, and they to refer to people in general or to no person in particular. In this way, we can avoid using the passive.

You can buy stamps in lots of shops, not just the post offices.

They're building a new department store in the city centre.

We speak English in this shop.

✚ Be careful! Many past participles are used as adjectives.

I'm very *interested* in modern art.

We were extremely *worried* about you.

I'm *exhausted!* I've been working hard all day.

Present Simple and Present Continuous passive

Form

Present Simple Passive am/is/are + past participle

Present Continuous Passive am/is/are being + past participle

It	is is being	mended
They	are are being	

Use

The uses are the same in the passive as in the active.

My car is *serviced* every six months. (habit)

Computers *are used* in all areas of life and work. (fact that is always true)

Sorry about the mess. The house *is being redecorated* at the moment. (activity happening now).

Good Luck