

Grammar Reference

UNIT 1

PRESENT SIMPLE

Affirmative	Interrogative
I work you work he works she works it works we work you work they work	Do I work? Do you work? Does he work? Does she work? Does it work? Do we work? Do you work? Do they work?
Negative	
Long form	Short form
I do not work you do not work he does not work she does not work it does not work we do not work you do not work they do not work	I don't work you don't work he doesn't work she doesn't work it doesn't work we don't work you don't work they don't work

Spelling: 3rd person singular affirmative

- Most verbs take **-s** in the third person singular.
I work - he works
- Verbs ending in **-ss, -sh, -ch, -x** or **-o** take **-es**.
I go - he goes
- Verbs ending in a **consonant + y** drop **-y** and take **-ies**.
I fly - he flies
- Verbs ending in a **vowel + y** take **-s**. *I play - he plays*

Pronunciation

- s or -es in the third person singular is pronounced:
- /s/ with verbs ending in /t/, /k/, /p/ or /t/ sounds.
he sits
- /ɪz/ with verbs ending in /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/ or /z/ sounds.
he watches
- /z/ with verbs ending in **all other sounds**.
he plays

Use

- We use the present simple for:
- **daily routines, repeated actions** or **habits**.
I get up at seven every day.
 - **permanent states**.
I live in London.

Time expressions used with **present simple**: *every hour/day/week/month/summer/year etc, usually, always, every morning/evening/afternoon/night, in the morning/afternoon/evening/night, at night* etc.

Form

- We form the present simple with the subject (noun or personal pronoun) and the verb.
Affirmative
- The third person singular takes **-s** or **-es** in the affirmative.
Negative
- We use **subject + don't + main verb** in all persons in the negative except the third person singular. We use **subject + doesn't + main verb** in this person.
I don't play, he doesn't play.
- Interrogative**
- We use **do + subject + verb** in all persons except for the third person singular. We use **does + subject + verb** in this person.
Do you like football? Does he like tennis?

Short Answers

Do you...?	Yes, I do./Yes, we do. No, I don't./No, we don't.
Does he/she/it...?	Yes, he/she/it does. No, he/she/it doesn't.
Do they ...?	Yes, they do. No, they don't.

In short answers we use **"Yes"** or **"No"** the subject pronoun and **do/don't** or **does/doesn't**.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS (to be + verb -ing)

Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
I'm playing	Am I playing?	I'm not playing
you're playing	Are you playing?	you aren't playing
he's playing	Is he playing?	he isn't playing
she's playing	Is she playing?	she isn't playing
it's playing	Is it playing?	it isn't playing
we're playing	Are we playing?	we aren't playing
you're playing	Are you playing?	you aren't playing
they're playing	Are they playing?	they aren't playing

Form

We form the present continuous with the verb "to be" and add **-ing** to the base form of the main verb.

Use

- We use the present continuous for: **actions happening now, at the moment of speaking.**
*I'm **playing** tennis now.*
- actions happening around the time of speaking.**
*We're **looking** for a flat at the moment.*
- fixed arrangements in the near future.**
*I'm **seeing** John tomorrow.*

Time expressions used with the **present continuous**:
now, at the moment, at present.

Short Answers

Are you ...?

Yes, I am./Yes, we are.
No, I'm not./No, we aren't.

Is

he
she
it

 ... ?

Yes,

he
she
it

 is.
No,

he
she
it

 isn't.

Are they ...?

Yes, they are.
No, they aren't.

In short answers we use "**Yes**" or "**No**", the **subject pronoun** and the verb "**to be**" in the correct form. We do not repeat the main verb with the -ing.