



# Present Tenses

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ENGLISH\_2: PRE-INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

LECTURE #2

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# 1) Present Simple

- Positive, Negative, and Question
- Use
- Spelling

# Positive and Negative

## Positive

I  
We  
You  
They

} work

He  
She  
It

} works

## Negative

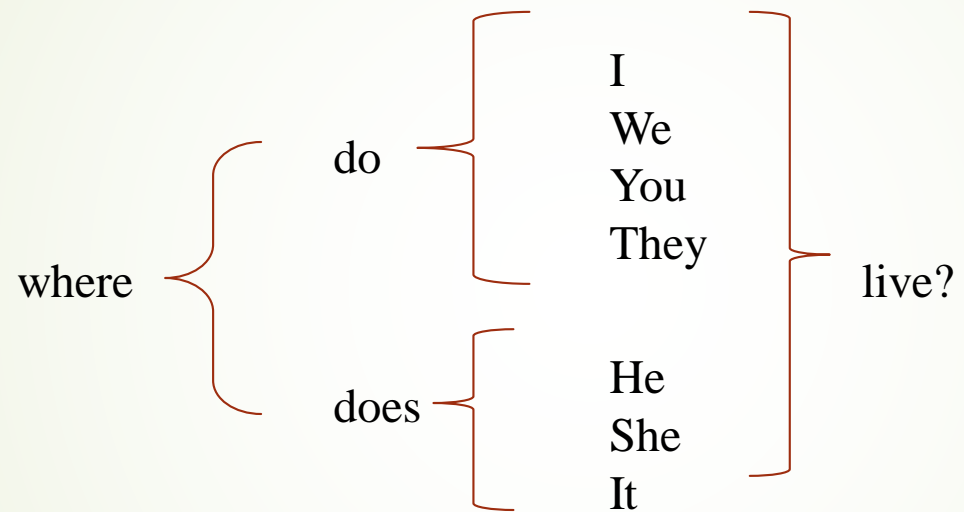
I  
We  
You  
They

} don't work

He  
She  
It

} doesn't work

# Question





# USE:

- An action that happens again and again (a habit)

I **play** football every day.

He **goes** to work by car.

- A fact that always true

Light **travels** at almost 300,000 kilometers per second.

The human body **contains** 206 bones.

- A fact that is true for a long time (a state)

She **works** in a factory.

# Spelling:

## Verb + -s

- ✓ Most verbs add –s the base form of the verb.

helps      writes      eats

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

washes      watches      fixes      goes

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

flies      tries      carries      worries

But verbs that end in a **Vowel** + **-y** only add **-s**.

buys      stays      plays

# Adverb and frequency

- ▶ We often use adverbs of frequency with the present simple.



- ▶ They go before the main verb, but after the verb *be*.

I **usually** start class at 8.30.  
I don't **often** go to bed late.  
She **never** eats meat.  
I **rarely** see Ali these days.

They're **usually** in a hurry in the morning.  
I'm **not often** late for school.  
He's **never** late.  
We're **rarely** at home at the weekends.



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

**Sometimes** we play basketball.

We play basketball **sometimes**.

**Usually** I go shopping with my family.

I go shopping with my family **usually**.

► **Every day**, etc. goes at the end

He phones his mother ***every night***.



# Present simple and future time

We also use the present simple to talk about:

- ✓ something that is **fixed** in the future:

The school term **starts** next week.

The train **leaves** at 19.45 this evening.

We **fly** to Paris next week.

- ✓ something in the future **after time words** like *when*, *after* and *before*.

and **after** *if* and *unless*

I'll talk to John **when** I see him.

You must finish your work **before** you go home.

**If** it rains we'll get wet.

He won't come **unless** you ask him.

## 2) Present continuous

The *present continuous* is made from the **present tense of the verb be** and the **-ing form** of a verb.

- Positive, Negative, and Question
- Use
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# Positive

I am

working

You are

playing

He is

talking

She is

living

It is

eating

We are

staying

They are

sleeping



# Negative

We make negatives by putting not (or n't) after *am*, *is* or *are*:

I'm not doing that.

You aren't listening. (or You're not listening.)

They aren't coming to the party. (or They're not coming to the party.)

She isn't going home until Monday. (or She's not going home until Monday.)



# Question

- We make questions by putting *am*, *is* or *are* in front of the subject:

***Are you*** listening?

***Are they*** coming to your party?

When ***is she*** going home?

What ***am I*** doing here?



# USE:

The Present Continuous is used to express:

- 1 an activity happening now.

They're **playing** football in the garden.

She can't answer the phone because she's **washing** her hair.

- 2 an activity happening around now, but perhaps not at the moment of speaking.

She's **studying** maths at university.

I'm **reading** a good book by Henry James.

- 3 a planned future arrangement.

I'm **meeting** Miss Boyd at ten o'clock tomorrow.

What are you **doing** this evening?

## 2.3 Present Simple and Present Continuous

- 1 Look at the wrong sentences, and compare them with the correct sentences.

✗	Hans is coming from Germany.
✓	Hans comes from Germany.
✗	This is a great party. Everyone has a good time.
✓	This is a great party. Everyone is having a good time.
✗	I read a good book at the moment.
✓	I'm reading a good book at the moment.

- 2 There are some verbs that are usually used in the Present Simple only. They express a state, not an activity.

✓	I like Coke.
✗	I'm liking Coke.

Other verbs like this are *think, agree, understand, love*.

## 2.4 *have/have got*

### Form

#### Positive

I We You They	have 've got	two sisters.
He She	has 's got	



## Negative

I We You They	don't have haven't got	any money.
He She	doesn't have hasn't got	

## Question

Do	I we you they	have a car?
Does	he she	

Have	I we you they	got a car?
Has	he she	

## Short answer

Do you have a camera?	Yes, I do./No, I don't.
Have you got a camera?	Yes, I have./No, I haven't.

We can use contractions ('ve and 's) with *have got*, but not with *have*.

I've got a sister.

I have a sister. NOT ~~I've~~ a sister.

# Use

- 1 *Have* and *have got* mean the same. *Have got* is informal. We use it a lot when we speak, but not when we write.

**Have** you **got** a light?

The Prime Minister **has** a meeting with the President today.


In American English, *have + do/does* is much more common.

- 2 *Have* and *have got* express possession.

I have I've got	a new car. three children. blond hair.
She has She's got	
He has He's got	

- 3 When *have* + noun expresses an activity or a habit, *have* and the *do/does/don't/doesn't* forms are used. *Have got* is not used. Compare these sentences.

✗	I've got a shower in the morning.
✓	I have a shower in the morning.
✗	What time have you got lunch?
✓	What time do you have lunch?
✗	He has never got milk in his coffee.
✓	He never has milk in his coffee.



4 In the past tense, the *got* forms are unusual. *Had* with *did* and *didn't* is much more common.

I **had** a bicycle when I was young.

My parents **had** a lot of books in the house.

**Did** you **have** a nice weekend?

I **didn't have** any money when I was a student.