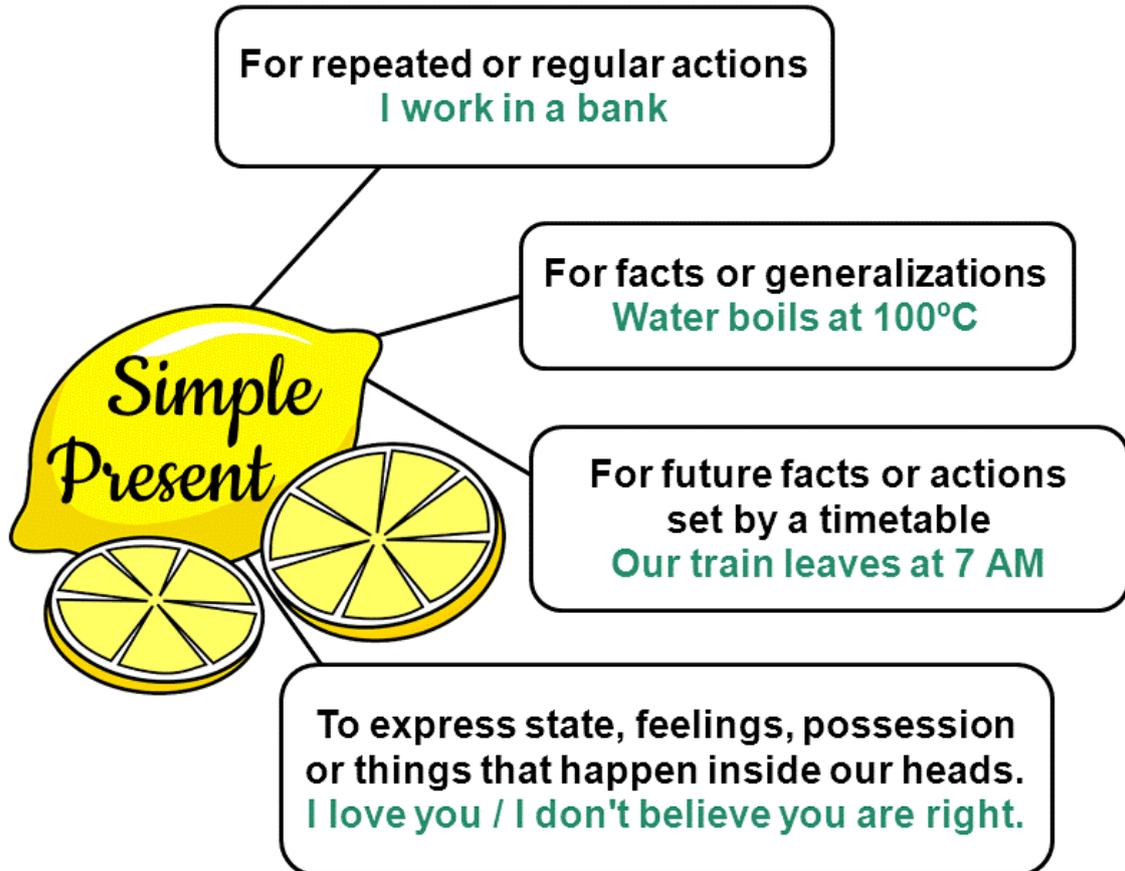
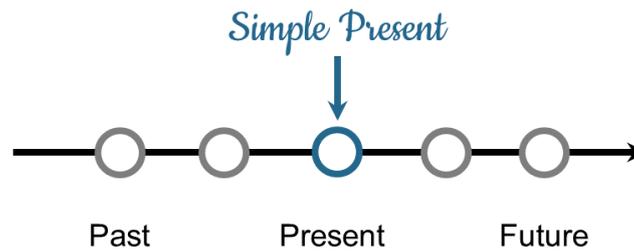


How to use the Simple Present Tense

THE USE OF SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE



1) For repeated or regular actions



Use simple present to talk about repeated actions, habits, hobbies, regular activities or scheduled events.

EXAMPLES

- I **work** in a bank.
- I **get up** early every day.
- Alice **takes** a shower every morning.
- She **doesn't work** in a bank.
- **Does** she **work** in a bank?
- He **takes** the train to the office.
- Kim **sleeps** eight hours every night during the week.
- Steve **goes** to visit his parents on Sundays.
- Helen and Martha **play** volleyball every afternoon.
- We **watch** television regularly.
- They **don't drink** coffee at breakfast.
- The train to London **leaves** every hour.
- The train **does not leave** at 5 AM.
- When **does** the train usually **leave**?
- You only **eat** chicken.
- Dr. Smith never **forgets** his wallet.
- Once a year I **fly** back to visit my family in Paris.
- Do you **smoke**?
- **Do** you usually **have** bacon and eggs for breakfast?
- It **rains** every afternoon in summer.

2) For facts or generalizations

Simple Present

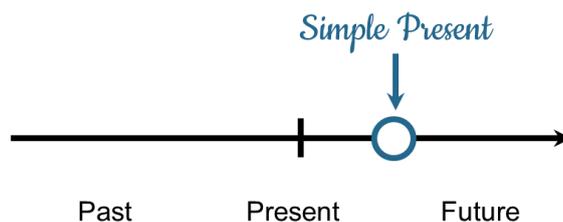


Use simple present to talk about things that are always / generally true or facts, although these facts are untrue. Also, simple present is used to make generalizations about people or things.

EXAMPLES

- Water **boils** at 100°C.
- The Earth **circles** the Sun.
- The Olympic Games **take** place every four years.
- You **come** from Italy.
- She **has** children.
- It **rains** a lot in winter.
- London **is** a large city.
- The customer **is** always right.
- Dogs **are** smarter than cats.
- Rich people **are** greedy.
- Two and three **make** five.
- Girls **don't enjoy** playing with cars the way boys do.

3) For future facts or actions set by a timetable



Use simple present to talk about events happening in the near future, future facts or scheduled events, usually found in a timetable or a chart. Furthermore, it is used to talk about fixed plans or arrangements.

EXAMPLES

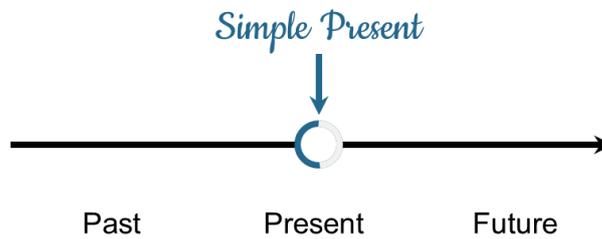
- School **begins** at eight tomorrow.
- The public library **opens** at seven.
- Christmas Day **falls** on a Monday this year.
- Her father **arrives** tomorrow.
- Our train **leaves** at 7 AM.
- The train **does not arrive** at 10 AM, it **arrives** at 11 AM.
- My exams **are** in July.
- **Does** the class **begin** at 8 or 9 this week?
- What time **does** the movie **start**?
- Which day **does** the zoo **open**?
- When **do** we **board** the ship?
- When **does** the class **finish**?

Simple present tense is also used for talking about the future after words like: 'when', 'until', 'before', 'after' and 'as soon as' with future constructions.

EXAMPLES

- I will call you when I **have** time.
- She won't go out until it **stops** raining.
- The doctor will see you before he **leaves**.
- I'm going to buy that dress after I **call** my mom.
- My mom will come as soon as her babysitter **arrives**.

**4) To express state, feelings, possession or things that happen inside our heads.
(With Non-continuous verbs)**



Use simple present to express the idea that an action is happening or is not happening now. Non-continuous verbs are usually verbs that you cannot see somebody doing. These verbs are rarely used in continuous forms. Here are some of the most common non-continuous verbs:

Feeling: Dislike, fear, feel, hate, like, love, prefer, want and wish.

Senses: Appear, feel, hear, see, seem, smell, sound and taste.

Communication: Agree, astonish, deny, disagree, impress, mean, please, promise, satisfy and surprise.

Thinking: Believe, imagine, know, mean, realize, recognize, remember and understand.

Other states: Be, belong, concern, consist, contain, cost, depend, deserve, fit, include, involve, lack, matter, need, owe, own and possess.

Meanings	
Non-Continuous verbs	Continuous verbs
<p>Feel (<i>have an opinion</i>) - She feels she should get a second chance.</p> <p>See (<i>understand</i>) - I see what you mean.</p> <p>Think (<i>have an opinion</i>) - I think we should close the door.</p>	<p>Feel (<i>feel physically</i>) - I'm feeling bad this morning.</p> <p>See (<i>visit</i>) - She's seeing a doctor this afternoon.</p> <p>Think (<i>use the brain</i>) - He's thinking hard about the problem.</p>

EXAMPLES

- I **am** here now.
- She **is not** there.
- I **like** Chinese food.
- I **don't like** spicy food.
- Fabrizio **hates** spaghetti.
- I **want** a coffee.
- My aunt **prefers** tea to coffee.
- I **don't believe** you are right.
- She **does not understand** me.
- **Does** this umbrella **belong** to you?
- What **does** it **mean**?
- **Do** you **have** your driver's license with you?

Adverb placement

You can add adverbs such as: always, frequently, only, never, ever, still, just, etc. between the subject and the verb.

EXAMPLES

- You **always** make me smile.
- Tomas **frequently** arrives here before me.
- Do you **only** speak English?
- I **never** give up.
- Do you **ever** eat in the cafeteria?
- She **still** loves me.
- My life is so boring. I just watch TV every night.