

Present Simple

The present simple tense is used to give personal information, facts and truths, to talk about habits or future events and with stative verbs. The present simple is normally used with words such as always, normally, usually, twice a year, every day/week and in the summer/winter/autumn/spring.

In the affirmative, we add the letter S to the infinitive verb for the third person singular (he/she/it). There are a few exceptions though;

- If the verb ends in X, Z, S, CH, O or SH then we add ES to the third person singular
- If the verb ends in consonant plus Y, then we eliminate the Y before adding IES to the third person singular

In the negative, all verbs are formed in the same way. The verb do (don't/doesn't) plus the infinitive verb.

There are four possible question structures in English and two short response forms too.

Affirmative	Negative	Question
l read	l don't read	Do I read?
You read	You don't read	Do you read?
He reads	He doesn't read	Does he read?
She reads	She doesn't read	Does she read?
It reads	It doesn't read	Does it read?
We read	We don't read	Do we read?
They read	They don't read	Do they read?

