

Tips and advice for foreign students in the UK
Over 150,000 overseas students live and study in the UK.

Read what some of them think.

Do people in the UK seem friendly?

 *My experience is very positive. British people like meeting people from other countries.*
Rosa, Chile

What differences do you notice?

 *People say the English are very punctual but I don't think it's true. For example, my physics class never starts on time.*
Frank, Switzerland

Presentation

Use the simple present tense to talk about ...

- facts (things that are always or currently true):
*Over 150,000 overseas students **live and study** in the UK.*
- repeated events and routines:
*I **have** a physics class every Monday at 9 a.m.*
*It never **starts** on time!*
- likes/dislikes and opinions:
*British people **like** meeting people from other countries.*
*I **don't think** it's true.*

Third person (he/she/it) -s: key spelling rules

You usually add -s: *live* → *lives*

However, there are exceptions:

- Add -es to verbs ending in -ch, -o, -s, -ss, -sh, and -x: *watch* → *watches*, *go* → *goes*
- Change verbs ending in consonant + y to -i: *study* → *studies*
- Do NOT change the ending -y after a vowel: *buy* → *buys* NOT *buies*
- Note also *have* → *has*

Affirmative

I / You / We / They	live	in the UK.
He / She / It	lives	

Negative

I / You / We / They	don't (do not)	think	it's true.
He / She / It	does not (doesn't)		

You usually use the contracted forms *don't/doesn't* when speaking and writing informally.

Questions and short answers

Do	I / you / we / they	seem	friendly?
Does	he / she / it		

Yes,	I / you / we / they do. he / she / it does.	No,	I / you / we / they don't. he / she / it doesn't.
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Where	do	I / you / we / they	come from?
	does	he / she / it	

Exercises

1 Complete the sentences with the simple present form of the verbs in the box.

cost enjoy feel go have live study take travel understand

- 1 Ricki goes to English classes twice a week.
- 2 The US president _____ in the White House.
- 3 We always _____ the bus to work at eight in the morning.
- 4 This bicycle _____ over \$500.
- 5 He _____ playing computer games with his friends.
- 6 Most people in France _____ their summer vacation in July and August.
- 7 Nigel and Bruce _____ for their exams in the evenings.
- 8 The moon _____ around the Earth at 3,683 kilometers per hour.
- 9 How do you _____ today? Are you better?
- 10 I don't _____ this question. Can you help me?

2  Complete the interview for a school magazine. Use the simple present form of the verbs in parentheses. Then listen and check.

Gabi Teschner, a German exchange student, is spending three months in the USA.

Interviewer: What ¹ do you notice (notice) about students in the USA?

Gabi: They ² get up (get up) very early for school.

Interviewer: What time ³ _____ (school/start) in Germany?

Gabi: We also ⁴ _____ (begin) at eight o'clock, but in the USA the school day ⁵ _____ (last) longer. Also the schedule ⁶ _____ (not give) much time for breaks and lunch.

Interviewer: What ⁷ _____ (you think) of American food, Gabi?

Gabi: I ⁸ _____ (like) the breakfasts because they are similar to Germany, but the school lunch ⁹ _____ (not taste) very good. It's always burgers or pizza and fries.

Interviewer: And what ¹⁰ _____ (students do) in their free time?

Gabi: Sports are very important in the USA, so they ¹¹ _____ (play) baseball or football after school.

Interviewer: ¹² _____ (you play) these sports in Germany?

Gabi: Yes, I'm on a women's football team, but we ¹³ _____ (not use) an oval ball. Our footballs are round!



Gabi Teschner



3 Correct the sentences. Three sentences are correct.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Everyone has a cell phone these days. ✓ _____ | 6 The children like the cake. _____ |
| 2 What time does you get up? <u>do</u> | 7 How often does he goes to the gym? _____ |
| 3 I doesn't believe everything in newspapers. _____ | 8 It not feel very comfortable. _____ |
| 4 Do they like meeting people? _____ | 9 My sister studys modern languages at university. _____ |
| 5 The mailman bring the letters in the morning. _____ | 10 What similarities you see between the two nationalities? _____ |