

Basic sentence structure in English

AFFIRMATIVE

	Subject (who / what)	Adverb of frequency (how often)	Verb (action)	Object (complements)	Place (where)	Time (when)
<i>Present Simple (be)</i>	I She Dolphins		am is never are	a student. late. clever animals.		
<i>Present Simple</i>	We The dog	often usually	go sleeps	swimming	in my bed.	in summer.
<i>Present Continuous</i>	I The sun We		am writing is shining. are speaking	a test		right now. now.
<i>Past Simple (be)</i>	It We		was were	cold tired.		yesterday.
<i>Past Simple (regular verbs)</i>	My friends		played	football		last week.
<i>Past Simple (irregular verbs)</i>	They		went	home		at 9 p.m.
<i>Modals</i>	You		must learn	the rules.		

NEGATIVE

	Subject (who / what)	Auxiliary with not	Verb (action)	Object (complements)	Place (where)	Time (when)
<i>Present Simple (be)</i>	I She My friends	am not isn't aren't		a student. late. lazy.		
<i>Present Simple</i>	We The dog	don't doesn't	go sleep	swimming	in my bed.	on Mondays.
<i>Present Continuous</i>	I The sun We	am not isn't aren't	writing shining. speaking	a test		right now. now.
<i>Past Simple (be)</i>	It We	wasn't weren't		cold tired.		yesterday.
<i>Past Simple (regular verbs)</i>	My friends	didn't didn't	play	football		last week.
<i>Past Simple (irregular verbs)</i>	They		go	home		at 9 p.m.
<i>Modals</i>	You	mustn't	learn	the rules.		

INTERROGATIVE

	Question word	Auxiliary	Subject (who / what)	Verb (action)	Object (complements)	Place (where)	Time (when)
<i>Present Simple (be)</i>	What	Am <i>(What)</i> is <i>(Why)</i> are	I your favorite you		right? book? so lazy?		
<i>Present Simple</i>	What (+noun)	<i>(Where)</i> do <i>(When)</i> does	you your mum	spend start	your holidays? work?		
<i>Present Continuous</i>	Where	<i>(What)</i> am <i>(Why)</i> is <i>(What language)</i> are	I Linda they	writing crying. speaking?			now?
	When						
	Why						
<i>Past Simple (be)</i>	Which	<i>(How)</i> was <i>(Where)</i> were	your you		day?		yesterday?
<i>Past Simple (regular verbs)</i>	Which (+noun)	Did	you	go		to the beach	last summer?
<i>Past Simple (irregular verbs)</i>	How	<i>(What time)</i> did					
	How often		they	go	home		yesterday?
<i>Past Continuous</i>	How many / much	Was <i>(Why)</i> were	everybody Peter and John	listening to running	me?	to the shop?	
							next summer?
	How old						
<i>Modals</i>		Can	you	dance?			

!!! Who

Peter always helps his mother.

1. **Who** always helps his mother? – **Peter**. (don't use any auxiliary if you ask about **the subject** - *who* is the doer of the action.)
2. **Who does** Peter always help? – Peter always helps his **mother**. (use the table below to ask about **the object**).