

## Present simple

We use the present simple to talk about:

- situations or states that are always or usually true: *We **live** in a flat.*
- habits and events or actions that happen regularly, often with adverbs of frequency (e.g. *always, often, usually*) and other time expressions (e.g. *on Mondays, every day, in the morning*): *We **usually get up** at six o'clock. He **goes** to the gym **every week**.*

<b>Affirmative</b>	I/you/we/they <b>eat</b>	he/she/it <b>eats</b>
<b>Negative</b>	I/you/we/they <b>don't eat</b>	he/she/it <b>doesn't eat</b>
<b>Question</b>	<b>Do</b> I/you/we/they <b>eat</b> ?	<b>Does</b> he/she/it <b>eat</b> ?
<b>Short answers</b>	Yes, I/you/we/they <b>do</b> . No, I/you/we/they <b>don't</b> .	Yes, he/she/it <b>does</b> . No, he/she/it <b>doesn't</b> .

## Adverbs of frequency

0% —————> 100%					
never	hardly ever rarely seldom almost never	occasionally sometimes	often usually	almost always nearly always	always

- We use adverbs of frequency to say how often somebody does something or how often something happens.
  - Adverbs of frequency come after the verb *be*, but before other verbs: *I'm **usually** energetic in the mornings. We **never drink** coffee.*
  - In negative sentences and questions, they come before the main verb: *I **don't often** see my brother. Do you **always walk** to work?*
  - We can put *occasionally, often, sometimes* and *usually* at the beginning or the end of a sentence: ***Sometimes** he works on Saturdays. We go out for dinner **occasionally**.*
- ⚠ We can use these expressions to talk about frequency: *every day/week/month/year, once/twice/three times a week/month/year* etc. They usually come at the end of a sentence: *We go out **every day**. He goes swimming **twice a week**.*
- ⚠ We can use *a lot* and *much* to talk about frequency: *They go out **a lot**. They don't go out **a lot/much**.*

**Complete the sentences. Use the present simple of the verbs in brackets.**

- 0 Lorna *often watches* TV in the evening, but Alice *usually reads*.  
(often / watch, usually read)
- 1 I'm often tired. I ..... hard and I ..... very much.  
(work, not relax)
- 2 My mother ..... to the gym every day, but my father  
..... any exercise. (go, not do)
- 3 Sophia ..... in London, but she ..... the  
weekend in the country with her parents. (live, often / spend)
- 4 Jane and Richard ..... to concerts often, but they  
..... to music a lot at home. (not go, listen)
- 5 Angus ..... from Glasgow, but he ..... with a  
strong Scottish accent. (come, not speak)
- 6 We ..... to town. We ..... the train – it's quicker.  
(not drive, usually / catch)

**Complete the questions and short answers. Use the present simple of the verbs in brackets.**

- 0 A: *Do you usually get up* early? (you / usually / get up) B: No, *I don't* .
- 1 A: ..... to university? (Tim / go) B: Yes, ..... .
- 2 A: ..... out every Sunday? (they / go) B: No, ..... .
- 3 A: ..... black? (Sue / always / wear) B: Yes, ..... .
- 4 A: ..... tennis every day? (you / play) B: No, ..... .
- 5 A: ..... near you? (they / live) B: Yes, ..... .
- 6 A: ..... from the USA? (she / come) B: No, ..... .

**Complete the interview. Use the present simple of the verbs in the box.**

borrow	catch	drive	not use	put	recycle	travel	walk	work
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- A: Excuse me. I (0) *work* for the local council. Can I ask you about our services? First, (1) ..... you ..... by public transport often?
- B: No. My husband and I (2) ..... public transport at all. We  
(3) ..... everywhere. My daughter usually (4) ..... to school,  
but she sometimes (5) ..... the bus if the weather's bad.
- A: I see. Next, (6) ..... you ..... paper, plastic and glass?
- B: Yes, I (7) ..... everything in the containers at the supermarket.
- A: Good. Finally, (8) ..... you ..... books from the public library?
- B: No, never. We don't have time to read very much.



**GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the book review with the present simple of the verbs in brackets. **2.53** Now listen and check.

*Sepulchre* is Kate Mosse's follow-up novel to her bestseller *Labyrinth*. It (0) takes (take) the same idea of two stories from different times which (1) ..... (connect) with each other. The first story takes place in the late nineteenth century. Léonie Vernier (2) ..... (live) in Paris with her mother and older brother, Anatole. Then an aunt in the south-west of the country invites Léonie to stay with her. Léonie (3) ..... (not know) her aunt but she (4) ..... (agree) to go, with her brother. When they (5) ..... (arrive), things (6) ..... (not be) as they seem ...

In the second story, Meredith Martin is a young American university professor. Her research takes her to Paris, where she (7) ..... (uncover) the sad story of Léonie and Anatole. (8) ..... the novel ..... (bring) nineteenth-century France to life? Yes, I think it (9) ..... (do). (10) ..... it ..... (provide) a good successor to *Labyrinth*? No, I (11) ..... (not think) so. The two stories (12) ..... (not link) as well as the stories in *Labyrinth*; the second one didn't add anything, really.

**Make questions from the words below. Then write true short answers.**

**2.54** Now listen and check.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 0 horses / eat / meat?                       | <u>Do horses eat meat? No, they don't.</u> |
| 1 water / boil / 100°C?                      | .....                                      |
| 2 the sun / always / rise / the west?        | .....                                      |
| 3 Switzerland / have / a coastline?          | .....                                      |
| 4 shops near you / usually / open / Sundays? | .....                                      |

**Read the information on the website. Then write about Derrick Coyle.**

### Unusual jobs: Ravenmaster, Tower of London

- (0) Name: Derrick Coyle
- (1) Age: 61
- (2) Job: Ravenmaster at the Tower of London
- (3) Lives: in an apartment at the Tower of London
- (4) Hours: dawn to dusk (summer 05.30–21.30)
- (5) Duties: look after ravens / prepare their food / give them water / lock them up at night

Derrick Coyle, with one of his ravens ▶



- 0 This is Derrick Coyle.
- 1 He ..... years old.
- 2 He is the .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....