

UNIT 3

MY WORLD

Routine and Free-Time Activities

When you refer to routines or anything that happens with certain frequency, you use the **Simple Present Tense** (see [Appendix p. 55](#) for more information).

Look:



I go to the University at 7:15 a.m.
I study Psychology.
My classes start at 08:00.
I love my career.
Psychologists help people to cope their mental problems.

In general terms, we use the **Simple Present** to represent something that is true (in fact, the previous statement and this statement are in the Simple Present tense). If we analyze it:

- A general fact ("*dogs bark*") is a **truth**.
- A habit or routine action becomes a **truth** (because it normally happens that way.)
- An opinion is a subjective **truth** (I believe what I say is true to me; you may agree or not.)

When you refer to **one** person that is not actively participating in the conversation (at that moment) or **one** non-human thing (called *Third Person Singular*), there are some rules when dealing with the Simple Present tense (modifying the **verb** in affirmatives or using "**does**" instead of "do" in negatives and interrogatives.)

REMEMBER:

AFF.: Subject + action (*modified if 3rd person singular*)
NEG.: Subject + do/does + not + action (*never modified*)
INT.: do/does + subject + action (*never modified*)

CONTRACTIONS
does not = doesn't
do not = don't

Vocabulary:
Routine Activities



go to (work,
university, school,
home, etc.)



wake up



get up



take a shower



have breakfast/lunch/dinner



take a bath



go shopping



tidy/clean my
room



ride my bike



watch TV



do my
homework



do the dishes



listen to music



brush my teeth

SOME OTHER ACTIONS (VERBS)

- Play (an instrument/a sport)
- Practice (an instrument/a sport)
- Read (a book, the newspaper, comics)
- Eat out
- Make the bed
- Take (the bus, the taxi, the train, etc.)



see my friends



go to bed/sleep

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Write a short text describing your normal day (containing about 5 sentences.)

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Read the following text and tell what Fred does in his normal day, rewriting the text using the Third Person singular.

Hello, my name is Fred. I work in a hospital. I don't go to work by bus, because I drive to work. I start working at 8:00 a.m. I finish at 6:00 p.m. Then I go home and eat something. I have dinner at 8:30 p.m. I watch TV at 9:30; then, I study a little, and finally, I go to bed at 10:45. I love my life.

His name is Fred. He works... _____

Asking for More Specific Information

When asking a question, if you add words like **what, where, when, who, how, why, how often, which**, etc., you can't answer only "yes" or "no". More information is needed.

Question words are added at the beginning of a question. Compare:

Do you live in New York?	Yes, I do / No, I don't
Where do you live?	I live in New York.

These are the most common question words:

QUESTION WORD	I WANT TO KNOW (ABOUT)...
Who	... the person/people
Where	... the place/location
What*	... the thing/specific data
Which	... a person's choice
When	... the time/moment
Why	... the reason
How	... the way/manner
How much	... the price/quantity (uncountable things)
How many	... the quantity (countable things)
How often	... the frequency of an event
How long	... the time extent or length
How far	... the distance
How + <i>adjective</i>	... the degree or amount of a quality (<i>qué tan...</i>)
Whose	... the owner

* "**What**" can be followed by a noun to refer to something even more specific (*what color..., what time..., what size..., what kind of music..., etc.*)

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Write the correct question word to complete the sentences. Pay attention to the answers.

_____ is your name?

My name is Evan.

_____ do you prefer: Popsi or Cola-Cola?

I prefer Popsi.

_____ is the hospital?

It's on Rivera Avenue, next to the bank.

_____ do you do exercise?

I do exercise three times a week.

_____ is your favorite actor?

My favorite actor is Tom Hawks.

_____ is the party?

It's next Saturday at 10 PM.

_____ is your house from the school?

It's five blocks.

_____ do you go to school from your house?

I just walk.

_____ does it take you to go to school?

It takes me about 5 minutes to get to school.

_____ water do you drink daily?

I drink about 2 liters daily.

_____ hours do you spend on a PC?

I spend about 3 hours on my PC.

_____ time do you go to school?

I go to school at 7:30 AM.

How Often Do You...?

The Simple Present is also used with **Adverbs of Frequency** or **Expressions of Frequency** because they tell us how habitual an event is.

Examples:

Mary **always** comes late to class. I wake up at 6:00 a.m. **every day**.

Adverb of Frequency Expression of Frequency

Adverbs of Frequency are normally placed before the verb (the action), unless it's the verb "to be" (*am/is/are*), in which case, they are placed right after the verb "to be". However, **expressions of frequency** are placed at the end of the sentence.

Look!

1. My sister **never** listens to my parents.
2. My sister is **always** on the phone.

In example number 1, the verb is "to listen", so the adverb of frequency is placed before.

In example number 2, the verb is "to be" (*is*), so the adverb of frequency is placed afterwards.

Here are some adverbs of frequency and expressions of frequency.

	ADVERBS OF FREQUENCY	EXPRESSIONS OF FREQUENCY
100% frequent	Always	Once a <i>day/week/month/year</i>
	Usually	Twice a <i>day/week/month/year</i>
	Often	Three times a <i>day/week/month/year</i>
	Sometimes	XXXX times a <i>day/week/month/year</i>
	Rarely/Hardly ever	Every <i>day/week/month/year</i>
0% frequent	Never	

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

According to the color next to each picture, write a sentence using an adverb of frequency. (Pay attention to the colors used in the previous table)

I never get up at 11.

What Time Do You...?

According to the previous section, you can ask the time something happens by saying “**what time**”, then you follow the interrogative structure. So, this is the structure to ask what time an event or action happens (using the Simple Present tense):

What time + SIMPLE PRESENT (INTERROGATIVE SENTENCE)

Example:

What time do you wake up?

What time does your brother wake up?

You can combine all we have seen in this unit to indicate the time something happens, by following this structure:

SIMPLE PRESENT SENTENCE + AT TIME

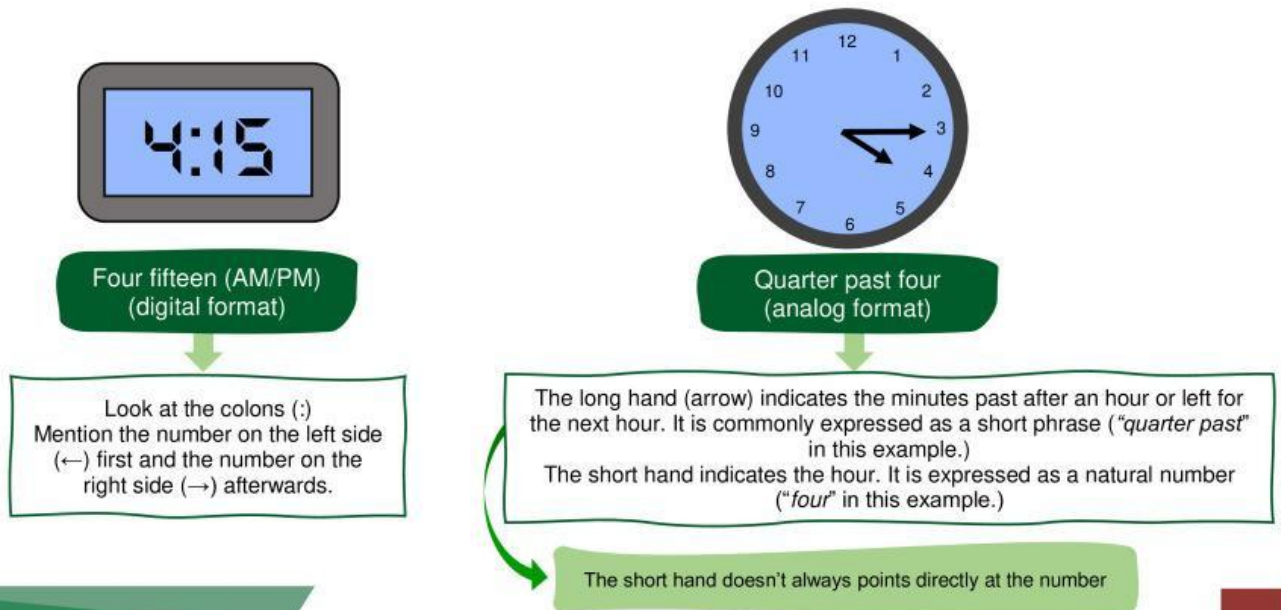
Example: I wake up **at 6 o'clock**.

You can add an adverb of frequency, like this:

*I **sometimes** wake up at 6 o'clock.*
[Remember to apply the rules for adverbs of frequency]

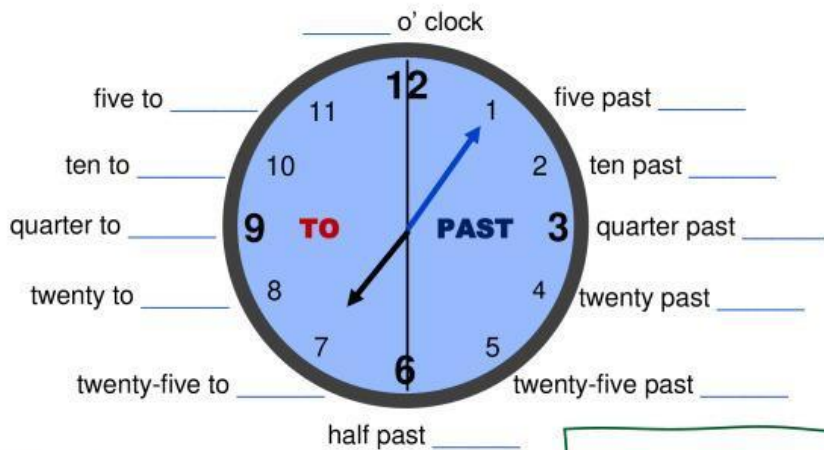
Telling the time

There are two ways to tell the time: by using the digital format or the analog format. Look:



How to tell the time using an analog format:

Look at the position of the hands. The long hand indicates the minutes and it's expressed as one of the phrases shown in this diagram.



Notice that the expressions on the right side are almost the same as on the left side, changing "past" into "to"

The short hand indicates the hour and it's expressed as a number from 1 to 12. The hour is mentioned **always after the phrase indicated by the long hand (except in the case of "o'clock".)** Look at where the blue line is drawn. That's the place where the hour is mentioned.

So, in this example, the long hand is pointing at 1. It means the phrase to mention is "five past" and the short hand is pointing at 7, so, the number to say is "seven". Thus, the time is **five past seven**.

SUMMARY

Long hand → indicates minutes. Use a phrase

Short hand → indicates hour. Use a number (mostly at the end of the phrase)

Note: You can tell the time using any of the digital or analog format, despite the type of clock you see.

For example:



LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Look at the picture and the clock next to it to indicate what time you perform those actions.











LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Look at the picture and the clock next to it to indicate what time you perform those actions and pay attention to the colors to indicate how often you do them (see page 34 to check the colors)





