

# **The Present, Past and Future Simple tenses**

# The Present Simple tense

Positive	Negative	Question
I/you/we/they <i>work</i>	I/you/we/they <i>don't work</i>	<i>Do</i> I/you/we/they <i>work</i> ?
He/she/it <i>works</i>	He/she/it <i>doesn't work</i>	<i>Does</i> he/she/it <i>work</i> ?

## Time expressions

We often use the present simple with such adverbs of frequency as **always**, **never**, **often**, **sometimes** and **usually**, they normally go before the main verb.

I **always** watch TV after school. Sue **usually** has cereal for breakfast.  
She **often** arrives late for college. They **sometimes** have a match on Friday.  
They don't **often** forget their homework. We **never** give customers a refund.

The verb **to be** is exception. Adverbs of frequency go after the verb to be.

I am **always** at school before 08.00      Maths is **sometimes** quite difficult.

# The Past Simple tense

Positive	Negative	Question
I/you/he/she/it/we/they <i>went, moved.</i>	I/you/he/she/it/we/they <b>didn't (did not) go, move.</b>	<b>Did</b> you/he/she/it/we/they <i>go, move?</i>

We use the past simple to talk about finished states, events and actions in the past.

Last year we **studied** the lives of the ancient Greeks in History.

Neil Armstrong **was** the first man to land on the moon.

## Irregular verbs

Many common verbs have **irregular past forms**.

**go - went    have - had    take - took**

The verb **to be** has two past simple forms.

I / He / She / It **was** at school yesterday.

You / We / They **were** at school yesterday.

I / He / She / It **was not (wasn't)** at school yesterday.

You / We / They **were not (weren't)** at school yesterday.

**Was** I / he / she / it at school yesterday? – Yes, I / he / she / it **was**.

**Were** you / we / they at school yesterday? – Yes, you / we / they **were**.

# The Future Simple Tense

+	I <b>will</b> phone you tonight
-	I <b>won't</b> phone you tonight
?	<b>Will</b> I phone you tonight?

We use **will** and **shall** to show our intentions and attitudes towards other people. We use **will** to express our desire or willingness to do things when

- reacting to present situations (making decisions at the moment of speaking).

I can't do this. Don't worry. I'll **help** you.

- making threats or promises.

The next time you do that I'll **send** you out of the room.

Good bye then. I'll **phone** you tomorrow to tell you what happened.

- making requests

**Will** you **carry** this for me, please?

**Will** you all **be** quiet?

We use shall with I and we in question forms to

- make a request for advice.

What **shall** I **tell** him?

**Shall** I **take** a coat?

- make a suggestion or an offer.

**Shall** we **go** to the cinema tonight?

**Shall** I **phone** you about the homework?

## Exercise

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (do) many things **every day**.
2. She \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) only **on Sundays**.
3. They \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a party **last Friday**.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ (do) it **tomorrow**.
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ (write) that letter **2 weeks ago**.
6. He **usually** \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) modern clothes.
7. They \_\_\_\_\_ (write) a quick-test **next week**.
8. They **sometimes** \_\_\_\_\_ (break) their toys.
9. He \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the party tonight.
10. The boy \_\_\_\_\_ (get) only good marks **last year**.

## Choose the correct answer:

1. Nancy's uncle is a pilot. He \_\_\_\_\_ all over the world.

- A) goes      B) sees      C) travels      D) delivers

2. She \_\_\_\_\_ from America.

- A) don't comes      B) doesn't come      C) doesn't comes      D) does comes

3. \_\_\_\_\_ he sleep well?

- A) Has      B) Have      C) Do      D) Does

4. She \_\_\_\_\_ a bus to university.

- A) always takes      B) always take      C) takes always      D) take always

5. Geoffrey \_\_\_\_\_ French before, but he \_\_\_\_\_ at university now.

- A) study didn't / studies      B) didn't study / study  
C) did not study / studies      D) didn't studied / studies

## Choose the correct answer:

6. Where \_\_\_\_\_ she live in 1950?

- A) does    B) is    C) did    D) do

7. Last year it \_\_\_\_\_ for three months, but it \_\_\_\_\_ just for two weeks.

- A) snows / rains                  B) snowed / rained  
C) snowing / raining    D) snow / raining

8. “Can I speak to Marco?” “Hold on. I \_\_\_\_\_ him.”

- A) got    B) am going to get    C) get    D) will get

9. “Now, holidays. Where \_\_\_\_\_ this year?”

“We don’t know yet.”

- A) did you go    B) you going    C) will you go    D) do you going

10. “My bag is so heavy.” “Give it to me. \_\_\_\_\_ it for you.”

- A) I’m going to carry    B) I carry    C) I’ll carry    D) I carried