

Simple Tenses

“Present Simple, Past Simple, Future Simple”

I. Present Simple

1. Use:

We use it to talk about:

- **Habits or repeated actions** like,
- He practices Yoga every week.
- **General truth:** like,
- The sun rises in the east.
- **Permanent states:** like,
- Olga lives in Paris.

2. Present Simple form:

I	Work
You	Work
He	Works
She	Works
It	Works
We	Work
They	Work

Note: In the present simple tense we use the base form of the verb (**stem**) + **“s”** for the **third person singular (he, she, and it)**.

Exception: we add **“es”** for the **third person singular (He, she, it)** with the verbs that end with these following endings (**ss, ch, sh, o, y, x**)

Examples:

- Discuss => discusses
- Rush => rushes
- Watch => watches
- Fix => fixes
- Do => does
- Fly => flies
- Occupy => occupies

3. The negative form of the present simple:

To form the negative in the present simple tense we add “**do not**”. For example:

- **Affirmative: I work today.**
- **Negative: I do not work today.**
- **Affirmative: He does work today.**
- **Negative: He does not work today.**

4. The interrogative form of the present simple:

To form the interrogative in the present simple, it requires changing the word order of the affirmative sentence and adding an auxiliary verb (usually “do” or “does,” depending on the subject). For example:

- **Affirmative: I play tennis.**
- **Interrogative: Do I play tennis?**
- **Affirmative: She studies Physics.**
- **Interrogative: Does she study Physics?**

Key points:

- You use “**do**” for subjects like **I, you, we, and they**.
- You use “**does**” for the third person singular (**he, she, and it**).
- The main verb returns to its base form.

II. Past Simple

1. Use:

We use it to talk about:

- Action happened in the past like,
- We played piano yesterday.
- To talk about past habits like,
- She never watched horror movies.

2. Past Simple form:

➤ If the verb is **regular**: *stem + ed*

➤ If the verb is **irregular** “the verb changes completely”

The verb “to work”

I	Worked
You	Worked
He	Worked
She	Worked
It	Worked
We	Worked
They	Worked

The verb “to go”

I	Went
You	Went
He	Went
She	Went
It	Went
We	Went
They	Went

Exception: If the verb ends in “Y” we may make some changes (we turn the ‘Y’ into an ‘I’)

To carry => carried

3. The negative form of the past simple:

To form the negative in the past simple tense we add “**did not**”. For example:

- Affirmative: I **did play** the piano.
- Negative: I **did not** play the piano.
- Affirmative: He **ate** lunch. (to eat)
- Negative: He **did not** eat lunch.

4. The interrogative form of the past simple:

To form the interrogative in the past simple, you generally use the past tense of the auxiliary verb “to do” (did) and invert the word order with the subject. For example:

- **Affirmative:** We **did study** quantum physics.
- **Interrogative:** **Did** we study quantum physics?

Key points:

- In the negative form, “**did not**” is often **shortened to “didn't”** in **informal speech**.
- When forming questions, the word order is typically **auxiliary verb + subject + main verb**.
- The main verb always stays in its base form in negative sentences.
- This form applies to both **regular** and **irregular** verbs in the past simple tense.
- “**Did**” is used as the auxiliary verb for all subjects.

III. Future Simple

1. Use:

We use it to talk about:

- **Future habitual actions** like,
 - Spring will come again.
- **To make plans** like,
 - Next week, I will travel to Spain.
- **Actions that will happen in the future** like,
 - I will go by bus.

2. Future Simple form:

To form the future we simply add: **will** + **stem**

I	Will take
You	Will take
He	Will take
She	Will take
It	Will take
We	Will take
They	Will take

3. The negative form of the future simple:

To form the negative in the future simple tense we add “**will not**”. For example:

- **Affirmative: I will visit the museum.**
- **Negative: I will not visit the museum.**

4. The interrogative form of the future simple:

To form the interrogative in the future simple tense you use the auxiliary verb “will” before the base form of the main verb. For example:

- **Affirmative: You will come to the party tomorrow.**
- **Interrogative: Will you come to the party tomorrow?**
- **Affirmative: She will visit her grandparents next weekend.**
- **Interrogative: Will she visit her grandparents next weekend?**

Key points:

- **“Will”** can be contracted or shortened to (**'ll**) for example: **I'll** go out.
- In **informal** language, **“will not”** is often contracted to **"won't"**.