

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

Beginner/ Elementary



Noticing Task 1



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- **Two old friends bump into each other in the supermarket after not seeing each other for years. Read their conversation , then answer the questions that follow.**



CANADIANDREAM
LANGUAGE TRAINING CENTRE

1	Sara	<i>Hi Jane, is that you? How have you been?</i>
2	Jane	<i>I am doing well. How about you? What is new with you?</i>
3	Sara	<i>I now live in Melbourne. I'm married and have one son. How about you?</i>
4	Jane	<i>I live in Riyadh. I am single and I study at a university there.</i>
5	Sara	<i>It's good to see you here in Melbourne. Do you always visit at this time of the year?</i>
6	Jane	<i>Yes I do. My family and I love visiting Melbourne.</i>
7	Sara	<i>That is good to hear. What do you do when you are here?</i>
8	Jane	<i>I usually wake up at 7 o'clock and walk in your beautiful parks.</i>

**In lines 3-4, what kind of information do the friends give each other?
In lines 6 and 8, what kind of information does Jane give Sara?**



Use Simple Present to:

Usage 1

• Give personal information about yourself or someone

• Describe your habit or routine

Ex. I **walk** a mile everyday. **habit/routine**

Ex. We **leave** for work at 7:30 AM every morning. **routine**

Ex. I usually **wake up** at 7 o'clock. **routine**

Ex. My husband **reads** the newspaper in the evening. **habit**



BORN:	22 July 1937
PERSONAL:	Married to Elizabeth with two sons.
HIGHEST QUALIFICATION:	Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) (Wits) (Cum Laude)
CAREER:	Was previously an attorney and South African Supreme Court judge. Chairman of the King Committee on corporate governance in South Africa and Global Reporting Initiative chairman.
FAVOURITE FOOD:	Bobotie, a South African dish consisting of spiced minced meat baked with an egg-based topping.
FAVOURITE PLACE:	Cape Town, South Africa
HOBBY:	Walking and watching good cricket
VALUES:	Doing the right thing and doing the essential
INSPIRATION:	Having the passion for what I do

Mervyn Eldred King

Rules

1. **Rule 1.** Singular noun takes a singular verb and plural noun takes a plural verb.

He, she, it walks you, they walk

2. **Rule 2.** When using “**or**” for compound subjects, the verb takes the number of the subject nearest to the verb.

Ex. Sumaya or the children **recite** a poem in tonight’s event.

Ex. The children of Sumaya **recites** a poem in tonight’s event.

3. **Rule 3.** Simple present for habits and routines is normally used with adverbs of frequency:

Always	frequently	often
Usually	seldom	rarely
Nowadays	never	every week/year
Sometimes	occasionally	from time to time
every now and then		



Quick Practice 1

Complete the following sentences by using the words in the parentheses.

1. He (go) _____ to the gym on Mondays.
2. You never (arrive) _____ on time.
3. I seldom (go) _____ to the zoo.
4. Francis occasionally (drink) _____ coffee.
5. Ron seldom (do) _____ his homework.
6. They (not / often / write) _____ stories.
7. Pierre (not / play) _____ tennis every week.
8. I (not / usually / listen) _____ to the news in the mornings.
9. They (spend) _____ their vacations in Canada every year?
10. He (always / wear) _____ a hat?

Noticing Task 2



- A teacher is teaching geography to her students. Read the conversation , then answer the questions which follow.



1	Teacher	Hi Jane, is that you? How have you been?
2	Al Anoud	Where is Paris Ms. Spence?
3	Teacher	Paris is the capital of France, which is located in Europe.
4	Eman	Do many people live there?
5	Teacher	Paris has a population of 8 million people.
6	Latifa	Paris is beautiful city and it is where the sun rises .
7	Teacher	Paris is truly beautiful Latifa but the sun rises in the east.
8	Latifa	Oh yes, right.

**In lines 3 and 5, what kind of information Ms. Spence gives about Paris?
Are the information the teacher provide true or false?**



Usage 2

Use Simple Present to:

•Talk about facts or opinions

We use the Present Simple to talk about universal truths (for example, laws of nature) or things we believe are, or are not, true (opinion). It's also used to generalize about something or somebody.

- Ex. Paris **has** a population of 8 million people. **fact**
- Ex. Barack Obama **is** the president of the United states. **fact**
- Ex. Victoria **is** located in southern Australia. **fact**
- Ex. Randa's house **is** more beautiful than Rawan's. **opinion**
- Ex. The Earth **goes** around the Sun. **fact (universal truth)**
- Ex. Dogs **are** better than cats. **opinion/generalization**
- Ex. Berlin **is** the capital city of Germany. **fact**
- Ex. Elephants **don't** fly. **fact (universal truth)**
- Ex. I **think** Liza is a good teacher. **(opinion)**



Quick Practice 2

Complete the following sentences by using the words in the parentheses.

1. Sorry, but I _____ (feel) it's not the right time to do this.
2. I _____ (not/believe/do) that's true.
3. The sun _____ (rise) every morning.
4. Children _____ (grow) a little each year.
5. Hurricane winds _____ (blow) from 90 to 150 miles per hour.
6. I _____ (believe) he's the best player of all time.
7. I _____ (not/do) think he'll do that.



Noticing Task 3

Read the conversations below then answer the questions which follow.



Saudi Arabia **is** ruled
by a king.



John **gets** easily tired
these days.



Melanie **is** excited
about her vacation.

How is Saudi Arabia ruled?

Is John well?

How does Melanie feel about her vacation?



Usage 3

Use Simple Present to (express):

- **State (how something or some is)**

Ex. Saudi Arabia **is ruled** by a king.

Ex. Bosnia **is** in war.



! When there is more than one verb, the verb paired with either **is** or **are** should be in the past form.

- **Condition**

Ex. Mike **gets** tired easily these days.

Ex. The box **is** old.



- **Likes & dislikes, thoughts and feelings**

Ex. Jill **doubts** the truth of his statement.

Ex. She deeply **regrets** complaining about her neighbor.



Quick Practice 3

Complete the following sentences by using the words in the parentheses.



1. She _____(like) baking.
2. My aunt _____(hate) travelling by train.
3. I _____(not/do/like)spinach.
4. The jar _____ (be/fill) with water.
5. I _____(have) no money at the moment.
6. My brother _____(have) a new car.
7. That bicycle _____ (be) old-fashioned.
8. I _____(think) she is a wonderful person.
9. The peanut (be/cover) with chocolate.



3 Common Mistakes to Watch Out for



1. **Remember**, don't forget the **-S** for he/she/it.

Incorrect: * He go to an English skill workshop every Sunday.

Correct: He goes to an English skill workshop every Sunday.

2. **Remember**, if it is an **action that started in the past**, use either for or since.

Incorrect: * I know him 5 years.

You met him 5 years ago, and you have known him ever since. So:

Correct: I've known him for 5 years (present perfect form)

3. **Remember** to use the present continuous for **actions** that are **temporary**.

Incorrect: * At the moment, I stay in a hotel.

As you see this as a temporary period of time, use the present continuous:

Correct: I'm staying in a hotel.

