

Grammar summary

Introduction

0.1 Present simple - affirmative

I You We They	visit	Germany every year.
He She It	visits	

a We use the present simple to talk about things that happen again and again.

I leave school at four o'clock every day.

b We also use the present simple to talk about facts that are generally true.

Cows eat grass.

c Note these spelling rules:

- 1 With verbs ending in -o, add -es.
He goes to school at eight o'clock.
- 2 With verbs ending in -ch, -sh, -s, -x, or -z, add -es.

We pronounce -es as /ɪz/.

He teaches English.

- 3 With verbs ending in -y after a consonant, remove -y and add -ies.

He worries a lot.

BUT

She often plays tennis.

0.2 Present simple - negative

I You We They	don't	like milk.
He She It	doesn't	

0.3 Present simple - questions

Do	I you we they	live here?
Does	he she it	
Where do you live?		

0.4 Present simple - short answers

Yes,	I you we they	do.	No,	I you we they	don't.
	he she it	does.		he she it	doesn't.

Do you play football? Yes, I do. (NOT Yes, I play.)

Does she go to the cinema every day?

No, she doesn't. (NOT No, she doesn't go.)

0.5 Present simple and continuous

I have a shower at seven o'clock every morning.

It's seven o'clock now. I'm having a shower.

We use the present simple to talk about things that happen again and again.

We use the present continuous to talk about something that is happening at the moment we speak.

0.6 Present continuous - affirmative

I	am 'm	walking. reading a book. wearing glasses.
He She It	is 's	
We You They	are 're	

We use the present continuous to talk about something that is happening at the moment we speak. For spelling rules of the *-ing* form, see Grammar Summary 3.1.

0.7 Present continuous - negative

I	am not 'm not	swimming.
He She It	is not isn't	
We You They	are not aren't	

0.8 Present continuous - questions

Am	I	listening to the radio?
Is	he she it	
Are	we you they	
Why are you laughing?		

0.9 Present continuous - short answers

Yes,	I	am.	No,	I	'm not.
	he she it	is.		he she it	isn't.
	we you they	are.		we you they	aren't.

Is he wearing a hat? Yes, he is. (NOT Yes, he's.)
Are they visiting the school? No, they aren't.

1 My life

1.1 Past simple: *be* - affirmative

I He She It	was	at home last night.
We You They	were	

1.2 Past simple: *be* - negative

I He She It	was not wasn't	at home last night.
We You They	were not weren't	

1.3 Past simple: regular verbs - affirmative

I	opened	the door five minutes ago.
He	watched	the football match yesterday.
She	cooked	dinner last night.
It	looked	cold this morning.
We	visited	my grandparents on Sunday.
You	needed	help in June.
They	started	the race at two o'clock.

We use the past simple for actions and states which happened at a particular time in the past and are now complete. We often use it with time expressions, such as *yesterday*, *ago*, *on* (+ day), *in* (+ month / year), and *at* (+ clock time).

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Note these spelling rules:

- 1 With verbs ending in *-e*, remove *-e* and add *-ed*.
He closed the door.
- 2 With verbs ending in a short vowel and one consonant, double the consonant and add *-ed*.
I stopped the car.
- 3 With verbs ending in *-y* after a consonant, remove *-y* and add *-ied*.

He married the President's daughter.

BUT

She played tennis yesterday.

Note these pronunciation rules:

- 1 When the base form ends in *-d* or *-t*, we pronounce *-ed* as /ɪd/.
- 2 When the base form ends in *-p, -k, -f, -sh, -ch*, we pronounce *-ed* as /t/.
- 3 In the other cases, we pronounce *-ed* as /d/.

1.4 Past simple: irregular verbs - affirmative

I	broke	my arm.
He	went	to France.
She	got	a new hat.
It	made	me ill.
We	rode	our bicycles.
You	came	to Britain last year.
They	gave	me some money.

A lot of verbs have an irregular past simple. There are no rules for this. You need to learn the form for each verb.

1.5 Past simple - negative

I	did not didn't	drink the water. go to France.
He		
She		
It		
We		
You		
They		

1.6 Past simple: *be* - questions

Was	I he she it	ready?
Were	we you they	
When was the film on TV?		

1.7 Past simple: *be* - short answers

Yes,	I he she it	was.	No,	I he she it	wasn't.
	we you they	were.		we you they	weren't.

Was he here? Yes, he was.

Were they angry? No, they weren't.

1.8 Past simple: regular and irregular verbs - questions

Did	I he she it we you they	buy that T-shirt?
Why did you say that?		

1.9 Past simple - short answers

Yes,	I he she it we you they	did.	No,	I he she it we you they	didn't.

Did she pass her test yesterday?

Yes, she did. (NOT Yes, she passed.)

Did they go to London?

No, they didn't. (NOT No, they didn't go.)

1.10 ago

I met him They moved house	a long time two months	ago.
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We use *ago* with the past simple to say how long before the present something happened. We put *ago* after the time expression.

a week **ago** three years **ago**

1.11 like + -ing

I You We They	like	skiing. going to the cinema.
He She It	likes	

We use *like* or *likes* and an *-ing* form to talk about hobbies and activities that we enjoy. For spelling rules of the *-ing* form, see Grammar summary 3.1.

2 The future

2.1 will - affirmative

I He She It We You They	will 'll	fly to the Moon one day.
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- a We can use *will* to make predictions about the future.
I'll be a famous singer.
- b We can use *will* to offer to do something.
I'll cook dinner tonight.
- c We can use *will* for decisions that we make now.
I've only got two pounds left. I'll go to the bank and get some more money.

2.2 will - negative

I He She It We You They	will not won't	buy a car next year.
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2.3 will - questions

Will	I he she it we you they	meet the Prime Minister?
When will they arrive?		

2.4 will - short answers

Yes,	I he she it we you they	will.	No,	I he she it we you they	won't.
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Will you help me? Yes, I will. (NOT *Yes, I'll.*)

Will you be at the party tonight?

No, I won't. (NOT *No, I won't be.*)

2.5 going to - affirmative

I	am 'm	going to have a party next week.
He She It	is 's	
We You They	are 're	

We use *going to* to talk about our plans and intentions for the future.

I'm going to phone my friend tonight.

He's going to buy a new mobile.

2.6 going to - negative

I	'm not	going to go to bed early.
He She It	isn't	
We You They	aren't	

2.7 going to - questions

Am	I	going to watch a film tonight?
Is	he she it	
Are	we you they	
When are you going to get up?		

2.8 going to - short answers

Yes,	I	am.	No,	I	'm not.
	he she it	is.		he she it	isn't.
	we you they	are.		we you they	aren't.

Are you going to spend all your money?

Yes, I am. (NOT Yes, I'm.)

Is she going to be a teacher? No, she isn't.

3 Times and places

3.1 Past continuous - affirmative

I He She It	was	walking home at four o'clock yesterday.
We You They	were	

We use the past continuous to say that somebody or something was in the middle of an action or situation at a certain time in the past.

It was raining yesterday morning at ten o'clock.

We make the past continuous with *was / were* and the *-ing* form.

Note these spelling rules of the *-ing* form:

- With most verbs, add *-ing* to the base form.
sing – singing play – playing
carry – carrying
- With verbs ending in *-e*, remove *-e* and add *-ing*.
dance – dancing
- With verbs ending in a short vowel and one consonant, double the consonant and add *-ing*.
sit – sitting
- With verbs ending in *-ie*, remove *-ie* and add *-ying*.
lie – lying

3.2 Past continuous - negative

I He She It	was not wasn't	watching TV last night.
We You They	were not weren't	

3.3 Past continuous – questions

Was	I he she it	eating breakfast at eight o'clock?
Were	we you they	
Why was she smiling at me? What were you looking for?		

3.4 Past continuous – short answers

Yes,	I he she it	was.	No,	I he she it	wasn't.
	we you they	were.		we you they	weren't.

Were you using the Internet last night?

Yes, I was. (NOT Yes, I was using.)

Was she playing the violin yesterday?

No, she wasn't.

3.5 Past continuous and past simple

We often use the past continuous and the past simple together when a shorter action (past simple) comes in the middle of a longer one (past continuous).

While Mrs Jones **was shopping**, she **met** her friend.

The telephone **rang** while Tom **was having** a bath.

4 Cities

4.1 the with place names

- a With most roads, streets, squares and parks, we don't use *the*.

on Churchill Road

Trafalgar Square

in Oxford Street

Hyde Park

Note this exception: **the High Street**

- b With seas, rivers, oceans and canals, we usually use *the*.

across **the** Mediterranean (sea)

the (River) Thames

in **the** Atlantic (ocean)

the Suez Canal

- c With theatres and cinemas, we usually use *the*.
the Playhouse (theatre)
the Odeon (cinema)
- d We use *the* with all place names with *of*.
the Tower of London
the City of London
the Bank of England
- e With most bridges, we don't use *the*.
Tower Bridge
Note these exceptions:
the Golden Gate Bridge
the Severn Bridge
- f With possessive forms ('s), we don't use *the*.
near Nelson's Column
at Durrant's Hotel

4.2 Definite and indefinite articles: *the* and *a / an*

Is there **a** supermarket near here?

Yes, there is. Go straight on until you see **a** bridge.

Cross **the** bridge and turn left.

- a We use *the*:
- when we talk about something again.
*I had a meal at a Chinese restaurant last week.
The meal was good, but the restaurant was very noisy.*
 - with superlatives and ordinal numbers.
*It was the biggest house on the street.
Our flat is on the second floor.*
 - when there is only one possibility.
*He wrote a letter to the Prime Minister.
(Britain has only one Prime Minister.)*
- b We use *a*:
- after *There's ... / Is there ...?*
*Is there a doctor in the building?
There's a fly in my soup.*
 - when we talk about something for the first time.
I watched a film last night.

When the next word starts with a vowel, we use *an*:
There's an interesting museum in this town.

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4.3 something, etc.

everything	everybody
something	somebody
anything	anybody
nothing	nobody

We need to buy some food – there's **nothing** in the fridge.

Somebody has taken my pen – who was it?

Everybody knows that London is the capital of the UK.

4.4 Present continuous for future arrangements

We use the present continuous to talk about an arrangement for the future.

I'm meeting Joe tomorrow evening.

We're flying to Barbados in July.

5 Experiences

5.1 Present perfect - affirmative

I We You They	have 've	climbed a mountain.
He She It	has 's	

- a We use the present perfect to talk about experiences in someone's life, without saying when something happened.

We've seen the Tower of London. (NOT *We've seen the Tower of London last year.*)

- b To make the present perfect, we use the present simple of the verb *to have* + a past participle.
- c To make the past participle, we add *-ed* to the base form of regular verbs.
The past participle has the same spelling and pronunciation rules as the past simple – see Grammar Summary 1.3.
- d A lot of past participles are irregular. There is no rule to make these past participles. You need to learn the form for each verb.

5.2 Present perfect - negative

I We You They	have not haven't	read that book.
He She It	has not hasn't	

5.3 Present perfect - questions

Have	I we you they	been in a film?
Has	he she it	
Why have you hidden my keys?		

5.4 Present perfect - short answers

Yes,	I we you they	have.	No,	I we you they	haven't.
	he she it	has.		he she it	hasn't.

Has he visited France? **Yes, he has.**

(NOT *Yes, he has visited.*)

Have they met the Queen? **No, they haven't.**

5.5 Present perfect - ever and never

Have you ever played rugby?

Yes, I have. But **I've never played** baseball.

We can use *ever* with a question in the present perfect. It means the same as 'at any time in your life'.
Have you ever met a famous person?

We can use *never* with the present perfect. It means the same as 'at no time in your life'.

I live in the USA, but I've never eaten pizza!

5.6 Present perfect - just

Martin isn't hungry. He's **just had** breakfast.
I'm tired. I've **just run** 10 kilometres!

We can use *just* with the present perfect to talk about something which happened very recently.

I've just started going to a new school. I don't know anyone there.

6 What's up?

6.1 should / shouldn't

I He She It We You They	should	visit a doctor.
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I He She It We You They	should not shouldn't	talk to strangers.
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We use *should* and *shouldn't* to give advice.

You should be more careful.

He should listen to his doctor.

They shouldn't run in the corridor.

6.2 must / mustn't

I He She It We You They	must	be home before nine o'clock.
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I He She It We You They	mustn't	swim in the river.
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We use *must* to say that something is necessary.

You must buy a ticket to go into the museum.

We use *mustn't* to say that something is not permitted.

You mustn't shout in the classroom.

6.3 mustn't and don't have to

You mustn't tell her – it's a secret.
I don't have to go to school today – it's Saturday.

Mustn't and *don't have to* have different meanings:

We use *mustn't* to say that something is a bad idea.

You mustn't drive fast. It's dangerous.

We use *don't have to* to say that something isn't necessary.

You don't have to drive fast. We've got a lot of time.