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🌐 <https://pucspel.online>
 ✉ spelonline@puc.edu.kh
 📍 PUC South Campus

Grammar Reference

Present simple

Present simple is used to talk about actions that happen repeatedly or are true in general.

Example:

I usually **go** to a library on weekends.
 The moon **goes** around the earth.

Form:

Subject + verb + ...

Negative form:

Subject + do/does + not + verb (base form) + ...

Example:

I **don't go** to school on Mondays.
 The sun **doesn't go** around the earth.

Question form:

Do/Does + subject + verb (base form) + ... + ?

Example:

Do you **go** to school on Mondays?
 Yes, I do. / No, I don't.
Does the moon **go** around the earth?
 Yes, it does. / No, it doesn't.

WH-question form:

WH-word + do/does + subject + verb (base form) + ... + ?

Example:

What do you **do**? I **work** in a school.
Where **does** he **go** every day? He **goes** to school every day.

Spelling rules in present simple for the third person singular:

Regular spelling		Singular	The third person singular
add -s in most cases		work	he/she/it works
		drive	he/she/it drives
		play	he/she/it plays
add -es when a verb ends in:	-o	do	he/she/it does
	-ss	miss	he/she/it misses
	-x	mix	he/she/it mixes
	-ch	catch	he/she/it catches
	-sh	push	he/she/it

			pushes
consonant + -y turns into	-ies	cry	he/she/it cries
		fly	he/she/it flies
		say	he/she/it says

Conjunctions: “and”, “or”, and “but”

Conjunction “**and**” is used to add information.

Example:

She studies English **and** Chinese. (joining words)

My brother plays football every Saturday, **and** I go swimming every Sunday. (joining two clauses)

Conjunction “**or**” is used to give options or choices.

Example:

Do you want an apple **or** an orange?

You can go to Europe, **or** you can go to the U.S.

Conjunction “**but**” is used to show opposite information.

Example:

My uncle can speak French, **but** my aunt cannot speak it.