

THE PRESENT TENSE

In English, the present is expressed as **one word**, saying what you do.

I WORK IN AN OFFICE. **MARCO WORKS** OUTSIDE, AND HIS SON **WORKS** WITH HIM.

Here is how the verb is conjugated in the present tense in English:

I WORK

WE WORK

YOU WORK

YOU WORK (*ALL OF YOU*)

HE/SHE/IT WORKS

THEY WORK

* if the verb ends in -x, -sh, -ch, or -o add **-es**:

I **fix**, you fix, she **fixes**

I **watch**, you watch, John **watches**

I **wash**, you wash, she **washes**

I **go**, you go, she **goes**

* if the verb ends in -y, change the y to i and add **-es**:

I **study**, you study, he **studies**

I **hurry**, you hurry, she **hurries**

To form the negative, just put **DO NOT** OR **DOES NOT** in front of the verb: (Be careful...never use the **-s** ending on the verb if you are using the negative!!)

* **Do not** can be contracted to **don't** and **does not** can be contracted to **doesn't** -- both are correct.

I DO NOT / DON'T WORK

WE DO NOT / DON'T WORK

YOU DO NOT / DON'T WORK

YOU DO NOT / DON'T WORK

HE/SHE/IT DOES NOT / DOESN'T WORK

THEY DO NOT / DON'T WORK

MARCO DOES NOT WORK ON SATURDAY. (or: Marco **doesn't** work on Saturday)

THE CHILDREN DO NOT STUDY ON SUNDAY. (or: The children **don't** study on Sunday)

Here are some other verbs you may know:

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 1. live | 7. walk |
| 2. study | 8. read |
| 3. speak | 9. write |
| 4. sleep | 10. watch |
| 5. eat | 11. listen |
| 6. drink | 12. cook |

In English, you need to use the subject with each verb; you cannot use the verb by itself!

For example: **I** prepare dinner, **my husband** prepares lunch.

We visit my parents each Summer, **they** visit us in Winter.

Use the verbs in parentheses to complete each sentence:

- (live)** I _____ in Kennett Square. My sister does not _____ in Kennett Square, she _____ in West Grove, and my parents _____ in Chadds Ford.
- (study)** The girls _____ together when they have a test the next day. Antonio _____ his math every night. We _____ English with our classmates and with our tutors.
- (speak)** My family _____ Italian when we are all together. My daughter _____ some Italian, but she does not _____ Italian with her friends, she _____ English with her friends.
- (sleep)** Do you _____ 8 hours each night? I only _____ about 6 hours. The baby, who is 16 months old, _____ 10 hours.
- (eat)** When do you _____ your lunch at work? My colleagues and I take turns; sometimes I _____ early, at 12:00, and sometimes late, at 1:30. My friend, Robert, does not _____ lunch. He _____ a big breakfast and dinner.

6. **(drink)** When it's very hot, we _____ a lot. My son does not _____ water all the time; he _____ Gatorade, my daughter _____ lemonade, and I just _____ plain water.

7. **(walk)** When it's nice outside, Paul _____ three miles every day, and his dog _____ with him. When it's raining or cold, they do not _____ outside—Paul _____ on the treadmill and the dog just watches.

8. **(read)** I _____ a lot! My friend Lisa and I _____ books we borrow from the library. Lisa _____ until very late at night.

9. **(write)** My mother _____ letters to her relatives in Italy. It is great to get a letter! Now, in the modern age, we don't _____ many letters any more. A young person, for example, _____ a lot of emails and does not _____ letters.

10. **(watch)** What do you _____ on TV? I _____ quiz shows or movies sometimes; my husband _____ sports, and my daughter _____ shows on Netflix.

11. **(listen)** In my house, we all _____ to music, all types of music. Even the children _____ to songs and sing along with them. I _____ to popular music, rock and roll, and classical music. What kind of music do you _____ to?

12. **(cook)** Do you _____ for your family? I _____ every day, three times a day. I like to cook traditional dishes, but sometimes, I like new recipes, too. We _____ Italian food a lot, but I also _____ Chinese and Mexican food. My friend _____ a new recipe each week for her family to try. Everyone likes good food!

Check your answers on the next page....

1. live, live, lives, live
2. study, stud**ies**, study
3. speaks, speaks, speak, speaks
4. sleep, sleep, sleeps
5. eat, eat, eat, eats
6. drink, drink, drinks, drinks, drink
7. walks, walks, walk, walks
8. read, read, reads
9. writes, write, writes, write
10. watch, watch, watch**es**, watch**es**
11. listen, listen, listen, listen
12. cook, cook, cook, cooks