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Basics: Present Simple - Form and Use

Easy | A1 | Elementary | Beginners | Present tense | Simple tense | Verb | Questions | Negation | English Grammar Basics

1. Read a college freshman's text messages to her mom complaining about her quirky new roommate. Select ALL the sentences that correctly describe the roommate's morning habits using the Present Simple.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** She always drinks three cups of espresso before talking.
- **B)** She always drink three cups of espresso before talking.
- **C)** She washes her pet iguana in the kitchen sink.
- **D)** She wash her pet iguana in the kitchen sink.
- **E)** She trys to play the violin at 6:00 AM.

2. Help the biology student finish her presentation notes on fascinating animal facts.

A giant panda _____ up to 14 hours a day eating bamboo. It _____ have time for much else! However, wild pandas _____ solitary lives and rarely meet each other in the forest.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** spends
- **B)** spend
- **C)** spending

Blank 2

- **A)** do not
- **B)** does not
- **C)** not

Blank 3

- **A)** lives
- **B)** live
- **C)** living

3. Help the exhausted college student complain about her roommate's morning routine by choosing the correct verb.

Every morning at 5:00 AM, my roommate _____ the blender to make a kale and garlic smoothie.

Select one.

- **A)** use
- **B)** uses
- **C)** is using
- **D)** using

4. Help the frustrated owner complete the diary entry about their very lazy cat by choosing the correct verb for each blank.

My cat, Sir Pounce, _____ for 18 hours a day. He _____ catch mice because he thinks it's too much work. Instead, he just _____ by his food bowl until I feed him.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** sleep
- **B)** sleeps
- **C)** sleeping

Blank 2

- **A)** don't
- **B)** not
- **C)** doesn't

Blank 3

- **A)** waits
- **B)** wait
- **C)** waiting

5. Choose the correct verbs to help the quirky science teacher finish her presentation on universal facts.

Water _____ at 100 degrees Celsius, but my coffee _____ cold in exactly five minutes. The Earth _____ around the Sun, while my dog runs around the kitchen table.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** boils
- **B)** boil
- **C)** boiling

Blank 2

- **A)** getting
- **B)** gets
- **C)** get

Blank 3

- **A)** go
- **B)** goes
- **C)** going

6. Complete the detective's interrogation of the prime suspect (who happens to be a very fluffy cat).

"_____ you know anything about the missing tuna?" the detective asked.

The cat just blinked.

"_____ your owner usually buy that expensive brand? Answer me! Why _____ you look so guilty?"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** Do
- **B)** Does
- **C)** Are

Blank 2

- **A)** Does
- **B)** Do
- **C)** Is

Blank 3

- **A)** do
- **B)** does
- **C)** are

7. Choose the correct phrase to complete the biology student's fun fact.

Despite what cartoon cats might suggest, a real feline _____ sweet things because of a genetic mutation.

Select one.

- **A)** doesn't tastes
- **B)** don't taste
- **C)** doesn't taste
- **D)** not taste

8. Complete the text message to the pizza delivery place about your extremely picky friend's order.

Please leave the mushrooms off the pizza. My friend Gary _____ them. He _____ anything green either. We _____ extra cheese instead, please!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** hates
- **B)** hate
- **C)** hating

Blank 2

- **A)** doesn't likes
- **B)** don't like
- **C)** doesn't like

Blank 3

- **A)** want
- **B)** wants
- **C)** wanting

9. An alien spy is writing a guidebook on how to pretend to be human. Select ALL the rules that use the correct negative form of the Present Simple tense.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Humans don't eat rocks for breakfast.
- **B)** A normal human doesn't sleep hanging upside down.
- **C)** They doesn't like it when you blink horizontally.
- **D)** The typical teenager don't wake up before noon on weekends.

10. Detective Barnaby is interrogating a very suspicious baker about a recent pastry heist. Select ALL the questions that Barnaby asks using the correct Present Simple form.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Do you bake these pies yourself?
- **B)** Does your assistant know about the secret ingredient?
- **C)** Do the oven stay on all night?
- **D)** Does you always wear that ridiculous hat?
- **E)** Where do you keep the stolen diamonds?

11. Help the detective piece together the suspects' weekly routine by choosing the correct word for each gap in the police report.

The detectives _____ that the thieves always _____ garden gnomes on Fridays. However, the gang members never _____ any footprints behind.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** know
- **B)** knows
- **C)** knowing

Blank 2

- **A)** steals
- **B)** steal
- **C)** stealing

Blank 3

- **A)** leave
- **B)** leaves
- **C)** leaving

12. Select the grammatically correct question to help the confused customer at the hipster coffee shop.

Select one.

- **A)** Does this avocado latte contains actual coffee?
- **B)** Do this avocado latte contain actual coffee?
- **C)** Does this avocado latte contain actual coffee?
- **D)** Is this avocado latte contain actual coffee?

13. Help Mr. Higgins grade his high school science pop quiz! Select ALL the statements that correctly state a general scientific fact using the Present Simple tense.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.
- **B)** The Earth goes around the Sun.
- **C)** Plants needs sunlight to grow.
- **D)** Ice melt when it gets hot.
- **E)** Magnets attract iron.

14. Complete the college student's complaint about their roommate's highly questionable morning routine.

My roommate _____ up at 6:00 AM every single day, but he _____ make coffee for me. Instead, he just _____ a loud, fizzy energy drink and runs out the door!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** wake
- **B)** wakes
- **C)** waking

Blank 2

- **A)** doesn't
- **B)** don't
- **C)** not

Blank 3

- **A)** drink
- **B)** drinks
- **C)** drinking

15. Choose the correct word to complete the frustrated musician's complaint.

I write all the lyrics, we both play the guitar, but somehow Dave _____ all the credit!

Select one.

- **A)** take
- **B)** takes
- **C)** taking
- **D)** is take