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MIDOCEAN
UNIVERSITY
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Present Tenses in Use

Lecture 2

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What's the difference? Present Simple and Present Continuous

Present Simple	Present Continuous
Things which are always true: • Water boils at 100 degrees.	Things which are happening at the moment of speaking: • The water is boiling now, so you can put in the pasta.
Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least): • Julie lives in London.	Temporary situations: • Julie is living in Paris for a few months (usually she lives in London). Situations which are slowly changing: • I 'm getting better and better at speaking English.
Habits or things we do regularly: • I drink coffee every morning.	Temporary or new habits: • I 'm drinking too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work. Annoying habits (usually with 'always'): • My flatmate is always leaving the kitchen in a mess!

Future events which are part of a timetable: • My plane leaves at eight tonight. To talk about the future after certain words ('when' 'until' 'after' 'before' 'as soon as'): • I'll call you when I get home.	Definite future plans: • I'm meeting John after class today.
To talk about what happens in books, plays and films: • At the end of the book, the detective catches the killer.	To talk about people in pictures and photos: • In this photo, my mother is walking beside a lake.

Remember:

We use the present simple with stative verbs. We can't use any continuous tense (including the present continuous tense, of course) with stative verbs.



Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

1. She _____ (run) because she's late for her lesson.
2. Our teacher always _____ (give) us lots of homework.
3. We _____ (not want) to go to the concert.
4. What time _____ (you / meet) Pete tomorrow?
5. I _____ (not work) today. I'm on holiday.
6. People _____ (speak) English in Jamaica.
7. Archie _____ (not use) his computer at the moment.
8. _____ (Tony / live) near the park?

LANGUAGE FOCUS 1

Present simple

- We use the present simple to talk about habits and work routines.

*I **travel** on business.*

*We **work** long hours.*

- We add an **-s** to the verb for *he/she/it*.

*He **attends** meetings.*

*She **works** in Tokyo.*

- We use *do* and *does* in negatives and in questions.

*They **don't** work late.*

*She **doesn't** leave work until 8 p.m.*

***Do** you drive to work?*

***Does** he travel in his job?*

Present simple Form

+	I/You/We/They work . He/She/It works .
—	I/You/We/They don't work . He/She/It doesn't work .
?	Do I/you/we/they work ? Does he/she/it work ?

Uses

We use the present simple:

- to talk about habits and work routines.

*I **get up** early in the morning.*

*She **works** from home.*

*They **go** to work by train.*

- to talk about facts and things that are generally true.

*They **have** offices in Seoul.*

*It **rains** a lot in Manchester.*

*She **earns** a high salary.*

- with verbs that describe permanent states.

*I **like** meeting people.*

*She **has** three children.*

*I think he **lives** in a flat.*

*I **know** his boss very well.*

- with adverbs and expressions of frequency.

*She **always wears** blue.*

*He **usually/generally takes** work home at the weekend.*

*They **often go** home early on Fridays.*

*I **sometimes play** tennis with a colleague.*

*Do you **ever go** to the theatre?*

*I **never go** to the theatre.*

A Darren Throop works for Entertainment One, a media company in Toronto, Canada. Complete the article below about his working day using the verbs from the box.

checks does drives finishes ~~gets~~ has likes makes spends travels

Darren Throop ...~~gets~~...¹ up at 6 a.m. and ...~~does~~...² some exercise in the gym in his house. At about 6.30, he ...~~has~~...³ breakfast for his two daughters. Then he ...~~checks~~...⁴ his e-mails in his home office. He ...~~drives~~...⁵ to work. At lunch time, he ...~~makes~~...⁶ a salad

at his desk. At work, he ...~~spends~~...⁷ a lot of time in meetings and on conference calls. He ...~~finishes~~...⁸ his office day at about 5 p.m. He ...~~travels~~...⁹ on business a lot, so he ...~~likes~~...¹⁰ to spend all his free time with his family.

LANGUAGE FOCUS 1

Present simple: negatives and questions

- To form the present simple negative of most verbs, we use *don't/doesn't* + verb.
- In present simple questions, we use *do/does*.

Negatives

They ***don't*** come to work on time.

He ***doesn't*** go to meetings.

Questions

Does he work well with colleagues?

Where do you work?

3 Present simple: negatives and questions; *have*; *some* and *any*

Present simple: negatives and questions

Points to remember

- 1 In questions, the -s is on the auxiliary verb, not the main verb.
*Does he **drink** coffee?* (NOT ~~Does he drinks coffee?~~)
- 2 We do not use the full verb in a short answer.
*'Do you **like** meeting customers?' 'Yes, I **do**.'* (NOT ~~Yes, I like.~~)
- 3 Spelling rules
 - For *he*, *she* and *it*, we add -s with most verbs.
*She **comes** from Brazil.*
*The job **pays** a good salary.*
 - When the verb ends with a consonant + y, the ending becomes -ies.
*He often **flies** to Amsterdam.*
 - When the verb ends in -ch, -sh, -s, -ss, -x or -z, the ending becomes -es.
*He **finishes** every day at six.*
*She **faxes** the invoice to us.*

Make negative sentences. Use *don't* (*do not*) or *doesn't* (*does not*).

1 I like meetings. (*presentations*)

I like meetings, but I don't like presentations.

2 We waste a lot of paper. (*electricity*) but we don't waste electricity

3 They agree about most things. (*money*) but they don't agree about money

4 Susan sends a lot of e-mails. (*faxes*) but she doesn't send faxes

5 Our management team discusses business strategy. (*employee problems*)
but it doesn't discuss employee problems

Match the questions (1-6) to the answers (a-f).

-
- 1 What do you think about the new boss? a) Peter. He's your line manager.
- 2 What time does the meeting start? b) He has to pay for the office party.
- 3 Where does she live? c) You can leave at five o'clock.
- 4 Why does he need the money? d) She's very efficient.
- 5 Who do I report to? e) In the city centre.
- 6 When do I finish work? f) It starts at two o'clock.

Complete these questions with *does have* and *do have*.

- 1 Do you *have* a new mobile phone?
- 2 What kind of car *does* she *have* ?
- 3 *Does* the company *have* a restaurant?
- 4 *Do* all the rooms *have* air conditioning?
- 5 *Do* I *have* time to finish this?

Present Continuous

Form

+	<i>I,</i> <i>you, we, they</i> <i>she, he, it</i>	(full form) <i>am</i> <i>are,</i> <i>is</i>	<i>working.</i>
	<i>I,</i> <i>you, we, they</i> <i>she, he, it</i>	(short form) <i>'m</i> <i>'re</i> <i>'s</i>	

Negatives

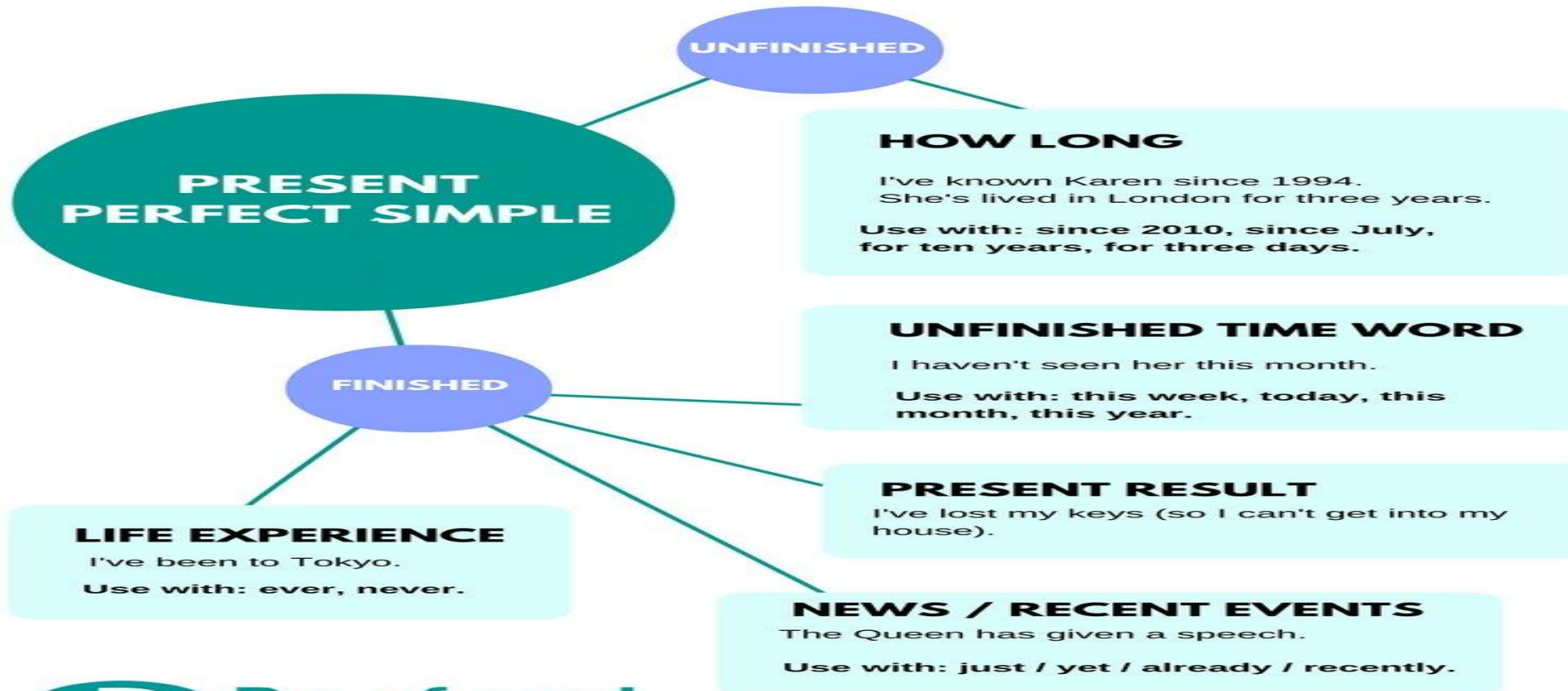
-	<i>I,</i> <i>you, we, they</i> <i>she, he, it</i>	(full form) <i>am not</i> <i>are not</i> <i>is not</i>	
	<i>I,</i> <i>you, we, they</i> <i>she, he, it</i>	(short form) <i>'m not</i> <i>'re not</i> or <i>aren'</i> <i>t's not</i> or <i>isn't</i>	<i>working.</i>

Questions

? +	Am Are, Is	I you, we, they she, he, it		working?
	(full form) Am Are Is	I you, we, they she, he, it	not	working?
? -	(short form) Aren't Isn't	I, you, we, they she, he, it		

Present Perfect

Use





The Form

Subject + have + P.P

has

- They ***have seen*** that film six times
- She ***has visited*** them frequently.

Interrogative

Have / has + Subject + P.P?

Wh question + have / has + Subject + P.P?

- Have you called your mom yet?
- Has Anthony played basketball yet?
- Have you travelled to Aswan?
- Have you ever ridden a camel?



Negative

- **Subject + hasn't / haven't + p.p.**
- They *haven't lived* here for years.
- He **hasn't finished** his homework yet.



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Thank You

