



Mastering the Simple Present Tense

A Practical Guide for Everyday
English in Mexico

When Do We Use the Simple Present?

Everyday Uses

- **Habits & Routines:** Actions you do regularly, like *"I drink café de olla every morning."*
- **General Truths:** Facts that are always true, such as *"Monterrey is in the north of Mexico."*
- **Schedules & Timetables:** Fixed events, e.g., *"The bus leaves at 7 a.m."*

Think: What do you do every day? What is always true about your city?



Simple Present Structure

Affirmative

- Subject + base verb (add **-s/-es** for *he, she, it*)

Negative

- Subject + **do/does not** + base verb

Question

- **Do/Does** + subject + base verb

Examples:

- I go to the market on Saturday.
- She doesn't eat cabrito.
- Do you take the Metrorrey?



Monterrey Examples

1



Affirmative

Ana lives in San Nicolás.
The Tigres play at 7 p.m.

2



Negative

They don't eat cabrito.
We don't go to classes on
Sundays.

3



Questions

Do you watch Rayados
games? Does the bus
leave at 7 a.m.?

Adverbs of Frequency

Talking About Habits

Use adverbs to show **how often** something happens:

- **Always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely, never**

Examples:

- I usually drink café de olla.
- She often eats cabrito.
- He never drives downtown at rush hour.



Fill in the blanks

She ____ ____ to the market, but she ____ ____ tacos.

Word bank 

go, doesn't, do, sometimes, eats, drink, always

Answers on the next slide...

Fill in the blanks



She **doesn'tgo** to the market, but she **alwaysseats** tacos.

Word bank 

go, doesn't, do, sometimes, eats, drink, always

Facts & General Truths

Permanent Facts

Use the simple present for things that are **always true**:

- The Cerro de la Silla is in Monterrey.
- Mexico celebrates Independence Day on September 16.
- Cacao comes from Mexico.



Schedules and Timetables



Fixed Events

The Metrorrey opens at 6 a.m.
Classes at UANL start at 7 a.m.



Sports & Transport

The Tigres play on Saturday.
The bus leaves at 7 a.m.



Negatives & Questions: Quick Guide

1

Negatives

Add do/does not before the base verb. Only he/she/it uses 'does not'.

2

Questions

Start with Do/Does, then the subject, then the base verb.

3

Third Person

He/She/It needs -s or -es in the affirmative.
Example: She studies.

Summary: Simple Present in Action

Key Takeaways

- Use the simple present for habits, facts, and schedules.
- Remember to add -s or -es for he, she, it.
- Use adverbs of frequency to talk about routines.
- Practice using negatives and questions in daily conversation.

Try it: Write a few sentences about your week using the simple present!

