



UCR Learning Center

AT209 - A free service for all UCR students

Simple Present Tense

WHEN TO USE THIS TENSE: facts, generalizations, truths, habits, everyday schedules, routines

TIME CLUES: usually, always, frequently, sometimes, never, often, rarely, occasionally, every/each day (week, month, year), seldom, all the time

Sentence Formation: one person or thing + Verb+s → He sleeps in class every day.
She frequently carries books..
It always snows here in January

two people or things + Verb → They sleep in class every day.
We frequently carry books.
Flowers grow well in July.

Negative Formation: one person or thing + **does not** + Verb → My car does not get good mileage.
Sometimes he doesn't know the answer.

two or more people or things + **do not** + Verb → Your kids do not misbehave.
Those insects do not cause any harm.

“BE” formation: I **am** → I am a carpenter.

He/She/It/one person or thing **is** → My neighbor is usually funny.

You/We/They/two or more people or things **are** → We are always on time.

Negative “be” formation: I **am not** → I am not happy about the parking situation.

He/She/It/one person or thing **is not** → He is not ugly.

You/We/They/two or more people or things **are not** → We are not ok.