

Handy Hints - Tense Guide

Subject Verb Agreement				
Make sure your subject agrees with your verb				
Tom	is	my friend.	Mary have a dog. ✗	Mary has a dog. ✓
Subject	Verb		We is Chinese. ✗	We are Chinese. ✓

Present Continuous Tense		
How to form this tense		
I	He/She/It	We/They/You
am + -ing	is + -ing	are + -ing
Spelling rules		
Double the consonant for CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant words: get → tt → getting)	Remove the e for verbs ending in 'e' (have → have → having)	
Use	Example	
Talk about things we are doing now.	Peter is watching TV at the moment. The teachers are having a meeting.	
Negative	Question	
Peter isn't watching TV at the moment. The teachers aren't having a meeting.	Is Peter watching TV at the moment? Are the teachers having a meeting?	

Present Simple - be + have		
How to form this tense		
I	He/She/It	We/They/You
am/has	is/has	are/have
Use	Example	
Talk about facts.	Jason is my friend.	
Talk about things we have/own. Talk about what people/animals look like.	David has a baby brother. Birds have wings.	
Negative form	Question form	
Jason isn't my friend. David doesn't have a baby brother. Birds don't have wings. (true for penguins)	Is Jason my friend? Does David have a baby brother? Do birds have wings?	

Present Simple - regular verbs

How to form this tense

I	He/She/It - ADD 's' or 'es'	We/They/You
go/eat/wash	goes/eats/washes	go/eat/wa

Spelling rules for He/She/It forms

add 's' eat → eats	add 'es' to words ending with sh: wash → washes	add 'es' to words ending in o: do → does
-----------------------	--	---

Use

Talk about habits.

Example

David goes to school by car.

Negative form - add *don't/doesn't* (no 's') on the main verb

David *doesn't* go to school by car.

Question form - add *do/does* (no 's') on the main verb

Does David go to school by car?

Commands

How to form this tense

Basic form of the verb (no ending)

Use

Ask/tell people to do something.

Negative form - add *don't*

Don't walk on the grass.

Example

Listen, please.

Question form

-ing forms

How to form this tense

I	He/She/It	We/They/You
love/like/hate/enjoy + -ing	loves/likes/hates/enjoys + -ing	love/like/hate/enjoy + -ing

Use

Talk about things you like/dislike

Example

Mary likes swimming.
John and Peter enjoy playing football.

Negative form - add *don't/doesn't* (no 's' on main verb)

Mary *doesn't* like swimming.
John and Peter *don't* enjoy playing football.

Question form - add *do/does* (no 's' on main verb)

Does Mary like swimming?
Do John and Peter enjoy playing football?

Exercise 6

Fill in the blanks in the following passage using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

E-mail to a friend

Hi Carl,

_____ you _____ (feel) any better now? Miss Chan _____ (tell) us what _____ (happen) to you. I _____ (be) so sorry that you _____ (break) your ankle and _____ (need) to stay in the hospital for _____ more days. How _____ it _____ (feel) to walk _____ (use) those sticks called crutches? What _____ (you/do) when the accident _____ (happen)? I _____ (hear) that you _____ (skateboard) but I _____ (not/be) sure if that was true.

I really _____ (miss) you on our school trip to the Space Museum today. As you know, I love _____ (learn) about planets so I _____ (find) the visit very interesting. We even saw a comet _____ (shoot) down to Earth in a movie.

Miss Chan _____ (give) me some homework for you. I _____ (bring) it when I come _____ (visit) you tomorrow. _____ (get) lots of rest and _____ (not worry) about school. I _____ (see) you very soon.

Best wishes,

David

**Thinking Skills**

Have you or a friend ever broken a bone?

Exercise 16

Fill in the blanks in the following passage using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Caterpillar Experiment (Part 2)

He looked really closely all around the glass jar but could not see the caterpillar anywhere. He began to wonder if it might _____ (escape) from the jar through one of the holes. But that _____ (not/seem) possible because the holes _____ (be) so small. At that moment, James noticed something strange that _____ (attach) to one of the leaves. It looked like a white shell.

"What can this be?" James asked himself. "I _____ (never/see) anything like this before."

He went to find his mum so he _____ (can/ask) what it was. When she _____ (see) it, she laughed.

"Your caterpillar _____ (go) to change into a butterfly soon. The white thing that you can see is called a cocoon. The caterpillar is inside it. When it is ready, it _____ (emerge) as a butterfly.

James was very excited. For the next couple of days, he looked at the jar every few hours. After a few days, when he got home from school, he

_____ (find) that instead of the cocoon there was a beautiful butterfly _____ (fly) around the jar. He knew that he couldn't keep a butterfly in a jar because it _____ (could) be cruel so he decided it was time _____ (let) it go in the garden.

He _____ (feel) a little bit sad but he also thought that it was a great experiment and he learned a lot about the life cycle of a butterfly.



Thinking Skills

Why do you think James felt sad when he let the butterfly go?