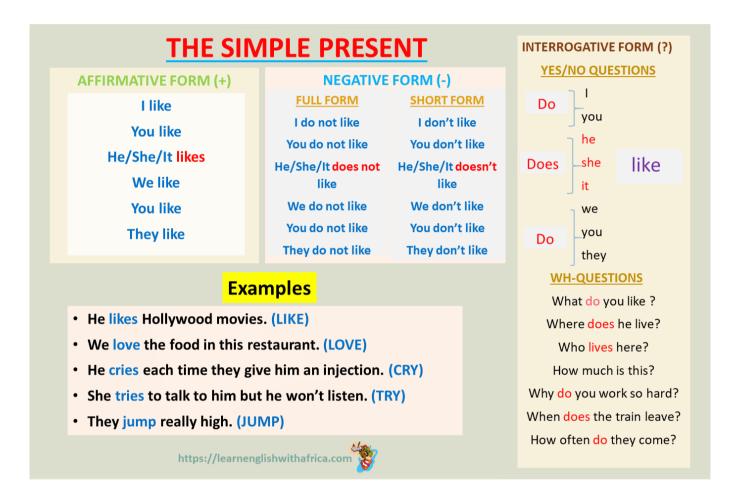
THE SIMPLE PRESENT: Talk about Facts and General Truths

This is the beginning of the **Simple Present Tense** series.

At the end of this first lesson, you will be able to talk about facts and general truths using the **Simple Present**.

REMEMBER: The Simple Present Tense is also known as the Present Simple Tense.



The Simple Present Tense: Talking about General Truths

We use the **Simple Present Tense** to talk about things that are generally true at the moment of speaking or writing.

Examples:

- There are 54 countries in Africa.
- More than 1 billion people live on this continent.
- The earth **revolves** around the sun.
- Koalas sleep about 18 hours per day.
- Lemons **contain** more sugar than strawberries.
- Europe lies in the northern hemisphere.

- Many people value education.
- Lungs help us to breathe.
- A cell is the smallest unit of life.
- Herbivores eat plants only.

These are unchanging and permanent things or situations. It is true all the time that herbivores eat plants only. This will never change.

YOUR TURN: Can you think of at least five sentences in which you talk about something that is generally true and use the **Simple Present Tense** at the same time?

The Simple Present Tense: Talking about Facts

We also use the **Simple Present Tense** to talk about factual information. You often see this in the news.

Examples

- COVID-19 is an infectious disease that is caused by a coronavirus.
- Most countries are under lockdown.
- Hippopotamuses kill more people in Africa than any other animal.
- Environmental issues often **spark** vicious debate.
- China produces a lot of goods compared to the rest of the world.
- Depression affects people from all social backgrounds.
- Young man invents an easy-to-use app to track daily expenses. (Mostly found in newspaper headlines)
- Ships usually rescue stranded immigrants in the Mediterranean Sea.
- France **welcomes** around 90 million tourists each year.
- Apple sells more touchscreen phones than Samsung.

Journalists are supposed to report facts or events that have happened. A 'fact' is something that exists. It is real and can be proved with evidence. A 'fact' should not be made up with fake news.

YOUR TURN: Can you think of at least five sentences in which you give information and use the **Simple Present Tense** at the same time?

TO BE

AFFIRMATIVE FORM (+)

NEGATIVE FORM (-)

EXAMPLES (E.g.)

FULL FORM	SHORT FORM	
l am	l 'm	
You are	You 're	
He 7	Не	
She 💳 is	She 's	
It _	lt J	
We ¬	We ¬	
You are	You 're	
They _	They	

	ULL DRM	SHORT FORM (1)	
Ι	am not	I'm not	
You	are not	You '	e not
He -]	Не -	
She	is not	She	's not
It -	J	lt -	
We		We -	1
You	are not	You	_'re not
They		They-	J
		l .	

SHORT		
FORM (2)		
l 'm not		
You aren't		
He		
She <u>isn't</u>		
lt J		
We		
You —aren't		
They		

• I am a teacher.

They aren't singers.

• It is cute.

You are not sick.

 He is not feeling well.

• She isn't a doctor.

• Are they from Tanzania?

 Am I at the cinema?

 Languages are not difficult.

• Is Polish easy?

Are you ok?

INTERROGATIVE FORM Am | South African?

Are <mark>you</mark> a football player?

Is he/she/it tall?

Are we hardworking?

Are you popular?

Are they at home?

