

Simple Present Tense: Affirmative Statements

Before You Read

1. What are your free time activities?
2. What is your favorite summer activity?

Read

Having Fun

Americans **work** hard. But they **have** fun, too. Americans **do** many different activities in their free time. They often **visit** each other. But a visitor usually **needs** an invitation. Or the visitor **calls** first.

People sometimes **invite** their friends to their homes. Sometimes, they **eat** dinner together. Other times, they **watch** sports on TV together. One popular game is the Super Bowl. The two best football teams in the United States **play** in January or February every year.

Americans **like** the movies. They often **go** to the movies on weekends. Theaters **sell** popcorn and other snacks. People **buy** these treats at a concession stand.

Americans also **enjoy** museums. Families **spend** time at the exhibits. Museums **have** interesting activities, too. A list of activities is usually on a museum's website.

City parks **have** many fun activities, too. In the summer, many city parks **have** free outdoor concerts. People sometimes **have** picnics. They **cook** on a grill and **eat** outside. They **call** this kind of food "barbecue." It's very popular.

Americans **enjoy** their free time.

Comprehension

Read the sentences about the reading. Circle *true* or *false*.

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|---|------|-------|
| 1. Americans like the movies. | True | False |
| 2. Monday is a popular day to go to the movies. | True | False |
| 3. People buy popcorn at the concession stand. | True | False |

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 4. Americans sometimes go to concerts outside. | True | False |
| 5. Outdoor concerts are often free. | True | False |
| 6. People cook on the grill in the winter. | True | False |
| 7. Visitors call first or they have an invitation. | True | False |
| 8. Museums have activities. | True | False |

Simple Present Tense – Affirmative Statements

A simple present tense verb has two forms: the base form and the -s form		
Subject	Verb (base form)	Complement
I	like	concerts.
You	have	a grill.
We	go	to the movies.
They	buy	popcorn at the movies.
Americans	enjoy	museums
Subject	Verb (-s form)	Complement
He	likes	popcorn.
She	has	a lot of friends.
Simon	enjoys	the Super Bowl.
My family	spends	a lot of time in the park.
Our team	plays	every Saturday.
Language Notes:		
1. Three verbs have an irregular -s form: <i>go (he goes)</i> , <i>do (she does)</i> , and <i>have (it has)</i> .		
2. <i>Family</i> and <i>team</i> are singular nouns.		

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the affirmative simple present tense. Use the verb in parentheses ().

1. He (*go*) goes to the movies on the weekends.
2. Kids (*like*) _____ activities in parks.
3. That family (*do*) _____ many things together.

4. We (*spend*) _____ a lot of time with our friends.
5. My park usually (*have*) _____ summer activities.
6. Americans (*call*) _____ before a visit to a friend's house.
7. My daughter often (*invite*) _____ her friends to our home.

Spelling of the -s Form

Examples	Explanation
visit – visits like – likes	Add -s to most verbs to make the -s form.
kiss – kisses wash – washes watch – watches fix - fixes	Add -es to base forms with <i>ss</i> , <i>sh</i> , <i>ch</i> , or <i>x</i> at the end.
worry – worries try – tries	If the base form ends in a consonant + <i>y</i> , change <i>y</i> to -i and add -es .
pay – pays enjoy - enjoys	If the base form ends in a vowel + <i>y</i> , do not change the y . Just add -s .

Exercise 2: Fill in the blanks with the -s form of the verb in parentheses ().

1. The team (*play*) _____ *plays* _____ baseball.
2. Each football team (*try*) _____ to win the Super Bowl.
3. Simon's son (*watch*) _____ every night.
4. Dorota (*enjoy*) _____ football games.
5. A new immigrant sometimes (*worry*) _____ about life here.
6. Only one team (*win*) _____ the Super Bowl.
7. Her father (*wash*) _____ the grill after a barbecue.
8. He (*spend*) _____ a lot of time outside in the summer.

Uses of the Simple Present Tense

Examples	Explanations
American movie theaters sell popcorn.	Use the simple present tense for facts.
We go to the movies once a week.	Use the simple present tense for repeated actions, such as customs, routines, and habits.
Americans like the movies.	Use the simple present tense with <i>like</i> , <i>want</i> , and <i>need</i> .

Exercise 3: Write a sentence with the correct form of the verb. Use the simple present tense. Use the ideas in the reading.

1. Americans / like

Americans like outdoor concerts.

2. American museums / have

3. An American visitor / need

4. Two teams / play

5. People / invite

6. An American family / go

7. Americans / cook

8. The best football team / win
