

PRACTICAL LESSON

Do - Present Simple

Lesson category: Mësimet në gjuhë angleze

Understand do and does as auxiliary verbs in questions, negatives and emphasis, and do as a main verb meaning to perform an action. Explains clearly why we say Does she work, never Does she works.

Do - Present Simple (do, does)

Do has two completely separate jobs in English, and confusing them is one of the most common sources of error. As an **auxiliary verb** it carries no meaning at all: it exists only to build questions, negatives and emphasis. As a **main verb** it means "perform an action" or "carry out a task". Once you can see which job *do* is doing in a sentence, the grammar becomes predictable.

Learning objectives

- Recognise **do** as an empty auxiliary and as a meaningful main verb.
- Build questions and negatives with **do** and **does**.
- Explain why the main verb loses its -s after *does*.
- Use **do** for emphasis in positive sentences.
- Handle sentences that contain *do* twice.

Do as an auxiliary verb

When the main verb is an ordinary verb in the present simple — *work, live, like, want* — English cannot invert it or add *not* directly. It borrows **do** or **does** to do the grammatical work.

Function	Structure	Example
Yes/No question	Do/Does + subject + base verb	Do you like coffee?
Wh- question	Wh- + do/does + subject + base verb	Where does she live?
Negative	subject + don't/doesn't + base verb	He doesn't smoke.
Emphasis	subject + do/does + base verb	I do understand.
Short answer	Yes/No + subject + do/does	Yes, I do .
Question tag	..., don't/doesn't + subject?	You work here, don't you ?
Avoiding repetition	... and so do I / ... more than I do	She works harder than I do .

Which form for which subject?

Subject	Auxiliary	Negative	Example
I	do	don't	<i>I don't know.</i>
you	do	don't	<i>Do you agree?</i>
he / she / it	does	doesn't	<i>She doesn't drive.</i>
we	do	don't	<i>We don't live here.</i>
they	do	don't	<i>Do they speak English?</i>

The golden rule: one -s per sentence

In the present simple, the third-person -s is marked **exactly once**. In a positive sentence it sits on the main verb. As soon as *does* appears, the -s moves onto it and the main verb returns to its base form.

Sentence type	Correct	Wrong
Positive	She works here.	—
Negative	She doesn't work here.	<i>She doesn't works here.</i>
Question	Does she work here?	<i>Does she works here?</i>
Wh- question	Where does she work ?	<i>Where does she works?</i>

Do as a main verb

Here **do** carries real meaning: to perform, to carry out, to complete. It behaves like any other verb, which means it needs the auxiliary *do/does* for questions and negatives — producing sentences with *do* twice.

Form	Example
Positive	<i>I do my homework every evening.</i>
Positive (3rd person)	<i>He does the shopping on Saturdays.</i>
Negative	<i>I don't do much at weekends.</i>
Negative (3rd person)	<i>She doesn't do sport.</i>
Question	<i>What do you do? — asking about someone's job</i>
Question (3rd person)	<i>What does he do in the evenings?</i>

What do you do? looks strange to learners, but it is perfectly regular: the first *do* is the auxiliary, the second is the main verb.

Common expressions with main-verb do

do homework, do housework, do the washing-up, do the shopping, do exercise, do sport, do business, do a favour, do your best, do research, do a course.

Do or make?

do	make
tasks, work, unspecified activity	creating or producing something
<i>do the dishes, do a job, do nothing</i>	<i>make a cake, make a noise, make a mistake</i>
<i>do an exercise</i> (perform it)	<i>make an effort</i>

Do for emphasis

In a positive sentence, adding **do** or **does** before the base verb makes the statement emphatic. In speech, the auxiliary is stressed.

- *I **do** like it — I'm just not hungry.*
- *She **does** know the answer, believe me.*
- ***Do** come in! — a warm, emphatic invitation.*

Signal words and time expressions

Because *do* supports the present simple, the usual markers apply: **always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely, never, every day, on Mondays, twice a week**. Adverbs of frequency go between the auxiliary and the main verb in negatives: *She **doesn't usually** work late.*

Formal and informal usage

- **Don't** and **doesn't** are standard everywhere in speech; formal writing prefers *do not* and *does not*.
- Emphatic *do* is common in both registers, but in writing it can sound insistent — use it sparingly.
- *He don't know* occurs in some dialects and in song lyrics. It is not standard English; write *He doesn't know*.

Common mistakes

Mistake	Correct	Why
<i>Does she works here?</i>	Does she work here?	the -s is already on <i>does</i>
<i>He doesn't likes coffee.</i>	He doesn't like coffee.	same reason
<i>You like coffee?</i> in writing	Do you like coffee?	the auxiliary is required
<i>Where she lives?</i>	Where does she live?	wh- questions need the auxiliary too
<i>Do you are a student?</i>	Are you a student?	<i>be</i> is its own auxiliary
<i>He don't know.</i>	He doesn't know.	third person
<i>I not like it.</i>	I don't like it.	negation needs <i>do</i>
<i>What do you make?</i> for a job	What do you do?	fixed expression

A comparison with be and have

Main verb	Question	Negative
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be	Are you ready?	You aren't ready.
have (possession)	Do you have a car?	You don't have a car.
ordinary verb	Do you work ?	You don't work .
modal (can)	Can you swim?	You can't swim.

Only **be** and the modals manage without *do*. Everything else borrows it.

Learning tips

1. Before writing a question, ask: is the main verb *be* or a modal? If not, you need *do* or *does*.
2. Say the rule aloud until it is automatic: "*does* takes the *s*, the verb stays plain".
3. Write five true sentences about a friend, then convert each into a question and a negative. The third-person forms are where errors hide.

Summary checklist

- Is my auxiliary **does** for *he, she, it* and **do** for the rest?
- Is the main verb in its **base form** after *do, does, don't, doesn't*?
- Did I avoid using *do* with **be** or with a modal?
- If *do* appears twice, is the first one the auxiliary and the second the main verb?
- Are my short answers *Yes, I do / No, she doesn't*?

Shpjegim në gjuhën shqipe

Rregulli i anglishtes, i shpjeguar në shqip

Folja **do** kryen dy punë krejt të ndryshme në anglisht, dhe ngatërrimi i tyre është burim i shumë gabimeve.

Si folje ndihmëse ajo nuk ka asnjë kuptim: shërben vetëm për të ndërtuar pyetjen, mohimin dhe theksimin. Format janë *do* për *I, you, we, they* dhe **does** për *he, she, it*. Struktura është *Do/Does + kryefjala + folja në formën bazë*.

Këtu vlen rregulli i **një mbarese të vetme**: në fjalinë pohore mbarese *-s* qëndron te folja kryesore (*She works*), por sapo shfaqet *does*, ajo kalon te folja ndihmëse dhe folja kryesore mbetet e zhveshur (*Does she work?*).

Si folje e mëvetësishme, *do* ka kuptimin «kryej një veprim»: *I do my homework*. Në këtë rast ajo vetë ka nevojë për ndihmësen, prandaj lindin fjali me dy *do*: *What do you do?* E para është ndihmëse, e dyta është folje e vërtetë.

Së fundi, *do* mund të shtohet në një fjali pohore për **theksim**: *I do like it*.

Ekuivalenti në gjuhën shqipe

Kjo është një nga temat më të vështira për folësit e shqipes, sepse **shqipja nuk ka folje ndihmëse për pyetjen dhe mohimin**. Anglishtja huazon *do* ose *does*, të cilat nuk kanë asnjë kuptim; shqipja shton thjesht pjesëzën **a** ose fjalën **nuk**.

Krahasimi i strukturave

Funksioni	Shqip	Anglisht
Pohore	Unë punoj këtu.	I work here.
Mohore	Unë nuk punoj këtu.	I don't work here.
Pyetëse	A punon ti këtu?	Do you work here?
Mohore, veta III	Ai nuk punon këtu.	He doesn't work here.
Pyetëse, veta III	A punon ai këtu?	Does he work here?
Përgjigje e shkurtër	Po. / Jo.	Yes, I do . / No, I don't .

Vini re dy gjëra. E para: pjesëza shqipe **a** është e ngjashme në funksion me *do*, por nuk ndryshon kurrë sipas vetës. E dyta: shqipja nuk e përsërit foljen në përgjigje, kurse anglishtja e kërkon këtë.

Rregulli i një «-s»-je të vetme

Në anglisht mbaresa e vetës së tretë shënohet **vetëm një herë**. Në fjalinë pohore ajo qëndron te folja kryesore; sapo shfaqet *does*, ajo kalon te folja ndihmëse dhe folja kryesore mbetet e zhveshur.

Anglisht e saktë	Gabim	Shqip
She works here.	—	Ajo punon këtu.
She doesn't work here.	<i>doesn't works</i>	Ajo nuk punon këtu.
Does she work here?	<i>Does she works</i>	A punon ajo këtu?

Do si folje e mëvetësishme

Kur **do** ka kuptim të plotë, ai përkthehet me **bëj**:

Anglisht	Shqip
<i>I do my homework every evening.</i>	Unë bëj detyrat çdo mbrëmje.
<i>What do you do?</i>	Me se merresh? / Ç'punë bën?
<i>She doesn't do sport.</i>	Ajo nuk merret me sport.

Në pyetjen *What do you do?* fjala e parë *do* është ndihmëse dhe nuk përkthehet fare; e dyta është folje e vërtetë dhe përkthehet me *bëj*.

Do për theksim

Anglishtja mund të shtojë *do* në një fjali pohore për të theksuar. Shqipja e arrin të njëjtën gjë me fjalë si **vërtet**, **me të vërtetë** ose **po**:

- *I **do** like it.* — Mua **vërtet** më pëlqen.
- *She **does** know the answer.* — Ajo **me të vërtetë** e di përgjigjen.

Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
<i>You like coffee?</i>	Do you like coffee?	shqipja mjaftohet me intonacion, anglishtja jo
<i>I not like it.</i>	I don't like it.	mohimi kërkon folje ndihmëse
<i>Where she lives?</i>	Where does she live?	edhe pyetjet me fjalë pyetëse e kërkojnë
<i>Does she works?</i>	Does she work?	një -s për fjali
<i>Do you are a student?</i>	Are you a student?	be është vetë ndihmëse

ENGLISH FOR LIFE