|  |
| --- |
| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Present Tense** |
| **Simple Present**  Verbs are actions, or doing words, for example ‘swim’ ‘run’ walked’ and ‘sings’.  Verb tenses enable us to express time. There are three simple verb tenses: the present tense, past tense and future tense.  Simple present tense verbs are used for actions that are happening now. For example ‘I run’ means that I am running now. ‘We laugh’ means that we are laughing right now. Present tense uses the verb’s root word e.g ‘I swim’. It only changes depending on who is doing the action, whether it is in first person, second person or third person.  Consideration of subject-verb agreement is important, the conjugations of the verbs is dependent on the subject. For example: I walk, you walk, he/ she/ it walks. The spelling of the verb alters depending on the subject.  The verb ‘to be’ is irregular, the word changes completely depending on the subject and if it is in the past, present or future tense. This needs to be addressed separately.  **Progressive form**  The Present Progressive Tense indicates an ongoing action. This tense is formed with an auxiliary verb in the present tense, plus the present participle of the verb (with an -ing ending): "I am buying all my family's Christmas gifts early this year. She is working through the holiday break. Daisy is being a really good girl in these days before Christmas".  The present progressive can suggest that an action is going to happen in the future, especially with verbs that convey the idea of a plan or of movement from one place or condition to another: "The team is arriving in two hours. He's moving to Portland this summer." Because the present progressive can suggest either the present or the future, it is usually modified by adverbs of time. |

© Copyright Grammar Masters