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?

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

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.	*She doesn't works here.*
Question	**Does** she **work** here?	*Does she works here?*
Wh- question	Where **does** she **work**?	*Where does she works?*

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

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?

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

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

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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.	*doesn't works*	Ajo nuk punon këtu.
Does she **work** here?	*Does she works*	A punon ajo këtu?

Do si folje e mëvetësishme

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

Anglisht	Shqip
I do my homework every evening.	Unë **bëj** detyrat çdo mbrëmje.
What do you do?	Me se **merresh**? / Ç'punë **bën**?
She doesn't do sport.	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.

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Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

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

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