



Learn English Through Stories

Elementary Grammar

**Adopted and modified by
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Banta's Day by K S Sandhu

Banta lives in a small village in Kenya. He goes to the Government Primary School. He studies in class 5. Banta is a happy boy. He likes school very much.

Every day Banta wakes up at 6.00 in the morning. He always brushes his teeth and washes his face. Then he eats breakfast. He usually has maize porridge and tea for breakfast. His mother makes the breakfast.

After breakfast Banta walks to school. The school is not very far. He always arrives at school before 8.00. He likes to be early.

At school Banta studies many subjects. He studies English, Maths, Science, and Social Studies. Maths is sometimes quite difficult, but he tries hard. He often plays with his friends during break time. They sometimes play football. Banta likes football very much.

After school Banta goes home. He always does his homework first. Then he helps his mother. He sometimes washes the dishes. He often plays with his little sister.

In the evening Banta watches TV. He always watches cartoons after dinner. His favourite cartoon is about animals. He likes animals.

On Saturdays Banta does karate. He goes to karate class with his friend Juma. They always wear white clothes for karate. Banta likes karate because it is fun and good for health.

His father always washes the car on Saturdays too. Banta sometimes helps his father. They clean the car together.

Banta has a good life in the village. He likes his family, his school, and his friends. Every day is busy but happy for Banta.

Comprehension Questions:

Question 1: Where does Banta live?

Question 2: Which class does Banta study in?

Question 3: What time does Banta always arrive at school?

Question 4: What does Banta usually have for breakfast?

Question 5: What does Banta do on Saturdays?

Answers:

Answer 1: Banta lives in a small village (in Kenya).

Answer 2: Banta studies in class 5.

Answer 3: Banta always arrives at school before 8.00.

Answer 4: Banta usually has maize porridge and tea for breakfast.

Answer 5: On Saturdays Banta does karate (and sometimes helps his father wash the car).

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present simple (1)

FORM

I / You / We / They **work / watch / fly / do.**
He / She / It **works / watches / flies / does.**

spelling rules for *he, she* and *it*

Most verbs: add -s.

Verbs ending in -s, -sh, -ch: add -es.

Verbs ending in a consonant followed by -y: change the -y to -ie.

Verbs such as *do, go, have* and *be* are irregular.

live → **lives** *buy* → **buys**

miss → **misses** *search* → **searches**

carry → **carries** *study* → **studies**

do → **does** *go* → **goes** *have* → **has**

USE

time expressions

We often use the present simple with *always, never, often, sometimes* and *usually*. These are called *adverbs of frequency* and normally go before the main verb.

I **always** watch TV after school.

Sue **usually** has cereal for breakfast.

She **often** arrives late for college.

They **sometimes** have a match on Friday.

They **don't often** forget their homework.

We **never** give customers a refund.

The verb *to be* is an exception. Adverbs of frequency go after the verb *to be*.

I am **always** at school before 08.00.

Maths is **sometimes** quite difficult.

Always and *usually* are slightly different. They express how often something happens, but only at a particular time, and not in a general way. Compare the sentences below.

He **sometimes** plays tennis. ✓

We **often** go to the cinema. ✓

He **always** plays tennis. ✗

We **usually** go to the cinema. ✗

He **always** plays tennis **after work**. ✓

We **usually** go to the cinema **on Saturdays**. ✓

Exercise

1 Write the *he / she / it* form of the following verbs.

a go <i>goes</i>	g pull	m read	s dance
b do	h want	n get	t swim
c study	i have	o finish	u cry
d walk	j drink	p pick	v wash
e eat	k buy	q wait	w meet
f push	l play	r need	x open

2 Complete the sentence with the affirmative form of the verb in brackets.

- a I (read) *read* the newspaper every day.
- b She (like) computers and going to the cinema.
- c They (go) to school by bus.
- d We (want) ice cream now!
- e He (study) French, German and English.
- f You (walk) very fast.
- g I (play) football and basketball.
- h She (finish) her homework quickly!
- i It (work) very slowly.

3 Put the words in order to make a sentence.

- a go they early home always *They always go home early.*
- b never sweets eats she
- c we cinema usually Saturdays go the to on
- d sometimes warm winter in is it
- e football often with friends his plays he
- f always January it rains in
- g dancing usually Fridays on go they
- h often music listens to he evenings the in

4 Use the prompts and a verb from the box in the correct form to write full sentences.

get watch play do go rain cook wear drink

- a We / for our friends (sometimes) *We sometimes cook for our friends.*
- b She / her homework (always)
- c They / tennis at the weekend (often)
- d I / on holiday in June (usually)
- e He / coffee for breakfast (always)
- f You / up early in the morning (never)
- g She / TV before dinner (sometimes)
- h We / jeans at the weekend (usually)
- i It / in the summer (sometimes)

Answers

Unit 5

Ex 1

a goes b does c studies d walks e eats
f pushes g pulls h wants i has j drinks
k buys l plays m reads n gets o finishes
p picks q waits r needs s dances t swims
u cries v washes w meets x opens

Ex 2

a read b likes c go d want e studies
f walk g play h finishes i works

Ex 3

a They always go home early.
b She never eats sweets.
c We usually go to the cinema on Saturdays.
d It is sometimes warm in winter.
e He often plays football with his friends.
f It always rains in January.
g They usually go dancing on Fridays.
h He often listens to music in the evenings.

Ex 4

a We sometimes cook for our friends.
b She always does her homework.
c They often play tennis at the weekend.
d I usually go on holiday in June.
e He always drinks coffee for breakfast.
f You never get up early in the morning.
g She sometimes watches TV before dinner.
h We usually wear jeans at the weekend.
i It sometimes rains in the summer.