**Unit Five /** Tenses – **The Present Simple Tense**

The simple present is a verb tense with four main uses:

**1.** We use the simple present tense when we talk about facts (fixed facts)

or factual information (truths)

e.g. Lions **are** wild animals. / e.g. The sky isn’t green.

e.g. I **have** two sisters. / e. g. She **has** two sisters.

e.g. Water boil**s** at 100 celsius. / e. g. Cows give milk

**2.** We use the simple present tense when the action happens regularly

like in general habits or scheduled programs:

**Note (1)** / we usually here use **adverbs of frequency** (**always** / **often** / **ever** / **usually** / **occasionally** / **frequently** / **rarely** / **seldom** / **sometimes** / **generally** / **never** / **every** …. / **once** … ( once a week, once a year ) / **normally**/ **hardly ever** / ……etc., which are put in front of the verb, except ***every ….*** Which is put at the end of sentences (like the adverbs of time).

e.g. I **always brush** my teeth. e.g. He **always** brush**es** his teeth.

e.g. They **often** **travel** to China.

e.g. Nada practices the violin **every day**.

**3.** We use the simple present tense when we describe a permanent

situation:

e.g. I work in a bank. e.g. She works in a bank.

**4.** The present simple is also used with future schedules and fixed

timetables.

e.g. School begins at 9:00 and ends at 3:00.

e.g. The bus leaves every 15 minutes.

**How to Form the Simple Present?**

In the simple present, most regular verbs use the root form, except in the third-person singular (which ends in –s or ‑es which are added at the end of the verbs whose root form ends in – o, ch, sh, th, ss, gh, or z).

**Note 2 /** when the verb ends with the letter (y), in this case:

(a) if the letter (y) preceded by a vowel letter, the (-s) is added directly.

(b) if the letter (y) preceded by a consonant letter, then the letter (y) is

changed into (i), and then add (-es).