TOPIC 1
SIMPLE PRESENT vs PRESENT PROGRESSIVE

Two ways of viewing the present

The **Simple Present** presents routines, repeated school activities, schedules and events as part of the normal pattern of school life. The **Present Progressive** presents an action as temporary or in progress at the moment or during the current period.

CONTRAST

The teacher explains the lesson every morning.

The students are discussing a project in the seminar room right now.

Meaning	Form	Example
routine / repeated action	V1 / V-s	The literature club **meets** every Friday.
Simple Present negative	don't / doesn't + V1	She **doesn't skip** lessons.
action in progress	am/is/are + V-ing	They **are preparing** a presentation now.
Present Progressive negative	am/is/are not + V-ing	The canteen **isn't serving** lunch now.

SIMPLE PRESENT QUESTION

Do/Does + subject + V1?

Does the coding club **meet** on Tuesdays?

PRESENT PROGRESSIVE QUESTION

Am/Is/Are + subject + V-ing?

Are the students **working** in the lab?

Time clues support meaning:every day, usually, often commonly accompany routines; **now, right now, at the moment, today, this week** commonly accompany actions presented as current or temporary.

TOPIC 2
FREQUENCY & INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Frequency before details

Always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely and **never** place a routine on a frequency scale. They normally appear **before an ordinary main verb** but **after the verb be**. Wh-question words then allow the speaker to ask for a person, place, time, reason, manner, type or description.

MODEL

Our school often organises international spelling bees.

What kind of extracurricular activities does the school offer?

100% → 0%

always · usually · often · sometimes · rarely · never

MAIN VERB

Students **usually arrive** on time.

BE

Students **are sometimes anxious** before exams.

HOW OFTEN?

How often does the chess club meet?

Question form	Information	Example
Who ...?	person	Who is leading the volunteering club?
Where ...?	place	Where can I find the counsellor's office?
When ...?	time	When is the next presentation?
How ...?	manner	How do you manage school stress?
Why ...?	reason	Why is the gym closed today?
What kind of ...?	type	What kind of clubs does the school offer?
What ... like?	description	What is your new headmaster like?

Important distinction:What is your headmaster like? asks for a description. **What does your headmaster like?** asks about preferences.

TOPIC 3
SOMETHING / ANYTHING / NOTHING

Unspecified information

Something normally introduces an unspecified thing in an affirmative statement. **Anything** is common in questions and negative contexts. **Nothing** means not anything and already carries a negative meaning, so it is followed by an affirmative verb form rather than another negative.

MODEL

There is something bothering the pupil.

Is there anything you need help with? — No, there is nothing.

Pronoun	Typical context	Example
something	affirmative statement	The pupil thought of **something** creative.
anything	question / negative context	Is there **anything** in the lab we can use?
nothing	negative meaning with affirmative verb	There is **nothing** in the locker room.

AFFIRMATIVE

something + adjective

We need **something useful** for the experiment.

QUESTION

anything + adjective?

Is there **anything important** in the notice?

Avoid double negatives:They did nothing. ✓ · **They didn't do anything.** ✓ · "They didn't do nothing." ✗

TOPIC 4
QUESTION TAGS

A short question after a statement

A question tag checks whether information is correct or invites confirmation. A **positive statement** normally takes a **negative tag**; a **negative statement** takes a **positive tag**. The tag uses the same tense or auxiliary as the statement and replaces the subject with a pronoun.

MODEL

The students practise martial arts after school, don't they?

The canteen isn't serving lunch now, is it?

Statement	Tag	Example
Simple Present +	don't / doesn't + pronoun?	The bell rings at three, **doesn't it?**
Simple Present −	do / does + pronoun?	You don't skip school, **do you?**
Present Progressive +	isn't / aren't + pronoun?	They are studying, **aren't they?**
Present Progressive −	is / are + pronoun?	He isn't using his phone, **is he?**
can / can't	can't / can + pronoun?	She can't attend today, **can she?**

Three checks:1) positive or negative statement? 2) which auxiliary or tense? 3) which subject pronoun belongs in the tag?

TOPIC 5
DEDUCTION & OBJECT PRONOUNS

From evidence to conclusion

Must expresses a strong positive deduction: the evidence makes the conclusion very likely. **Can't** expresses a strong negative deduction: the evidence makes the conclusion impossible. Both are followed by the **base form**. Object pronouns appear after verbs and prepositions when a person or thing is the object rather than the subject.

MODEL

She must be in the locker room because her bag is still here.

The counsellor spoke to them about managing anxiety.

STRONG POSITIVE DEDUCTION

must + V1

He **must be** in the science lab; his coat is here.

STRONG NEGATIVE DEDUCTION

can't + V1

The headmaster **can't be** here; he is at a conference.

OBJECT AFTER VERB

verb + object pronoun

The teacher asked **her** to stay after class.

OBJECT AFTER PREPOSITION

preposition + object pronoun

Our leader explained the rules to **us**.

Subject pronoun	Object pronoun
I	**me**
you	**you**
he / she / it	**him / her / it**
we / they	**us / them**

Don't confuse deduction with prohibition:He can't be in class. = I am sure he is not there. **You mustn't use your phone in class.** = it is prohibited.