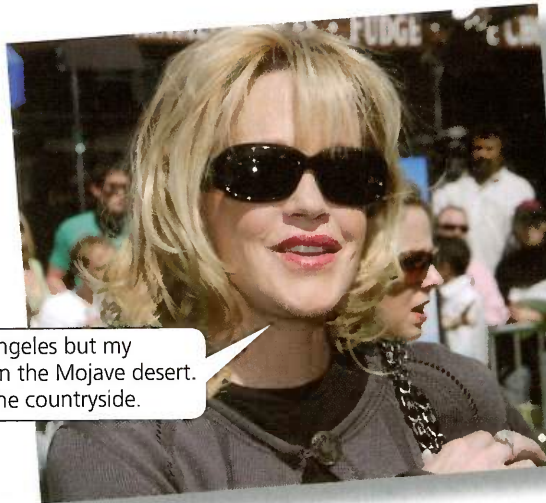


# 37 Present simple (1)



I live in Los Angeles but my mother lives in the Mojave desert. She prefers the countryside.



## 1 Form

POSITIVE		
I/We/You/They	live	in São Paulo.
He/She/It	lives	in the countryside.

We add *-s* or *-es* to the verb after *he/she/it*:

*go* → *goes*, *teach* → *teaches*, *wash* → *washes*, *relax* → *relaxes*

Sometimes the spelling changes:

*carry* → *carries*, *fly* → *flies*

NEGATIVE			SHORT FORMS	
I/We/You/They	do not	like	big cities.	I/We/You/They <b>don't</b> live
He/She/It	does not		the countryside.	He/She/It <b>doesn't</b> live

! After *he/she/it*, we use *doesn't*:

✗ *He don't like cities.* ✓ *He doesn't like cities.*

Spelling rules for *he, she, it* forms ► page 316

🔊 Pronunciation ► 1.12

## 2 Use

We use the present simple

- for facts that are always true:  
*Water **boils** at 100°C and **freezes** at 0°C. The Sun **doesn't** go round the Earth. Some trees **don't** lose their leaves in winter.*
- for things that we don't expect to change:  
*I **don't** live in the country; I **live** in the city. My sister **doesn't** work in an office; she **works** in a hospital.*
- for feelings (e.g. *feel, hate, like, love, prefer, want*):  
*My grandfather **likes** the countryside. He **doesn't** like the city. I **prefer** ballet to opera.*
- for thoughts and ideas (e.g. *agree, believe, know, mean, remember, think, understand*):  
*'I **think** New York is exciting.' 'Yes, I **agree**.' A red light **means** 'Stop'. You **don't** understand.*

Verbs that don't use the continuous form ► Unit 41.2