

## Simple Present

## Are You Often Online?

1 Grammar in the Real World 

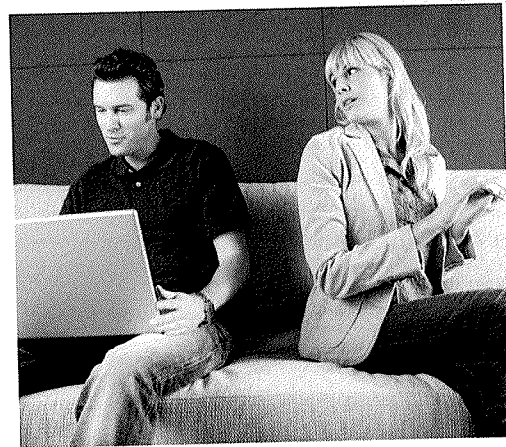
**A** What kinds of things do you do on the Internet? Read the magazine article.  
What is one good thing and one bad thing about spending time online?

## Balancing Time Online and Time with People

In today's busy world, people **spend** a lot of time with computers, and they **spend** less and less time with people. **Does** this **change** how people interact with family and friends? **Does** it **help** or **hurt** people and relationships? Sociologists<sup>1</sup> **disagree** about this. Some **worry** about the Internet's effect on our friends and family. Others **think** this is not a problem.

Studies **show** that people spend less face-to-face<sup>2</sup> time with family and friends than they did a few years ago. Instead, they **play** online games, **shop** online, and also **look** at social networking sites. In the United States, the average person **spends** 13 hours a week online. They **interact** face-to-face less, and this sometimes **has** bad effects. For example, some people **do not spend time** together as a family very often. They **talk** less because they spend more time online.

Sometimes technology **helps** people improve their relationships with



others. For example, social networking sites **help** people stay in touch with friends and family who live far away. They enable people to reconnect with old friends and classmates.

**Are** you worried about the time you spend online? If so, try to make a schedule. Schedule time away from the computer to be with family and friends. Try to balance online time with face-to-face time.

<sup>1</sup>**sociologist**: someone who studies people and society | <sup>2</sup>**face-to-face**: meeting with someone in the same place directly

**B Comprehension Check** Answer the questions.

1. What do sociologists disagree about?
2. How much time does the average person in the United States spend online per week?
3. What is face-to-face time? What are some examples of face-to-face time?
4. Does the article say not to use computers?

**C Notice** Find the sentences in the article and complete them.

1. In today's busy world, people \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of time with computers, and they \_\_\_\_\_ less and less time with people.
2. Sociologists \_\_\_\_\_ about this.
3. In the United States, the average person \_\_\_\_\_ 13 hours a week online.
4. Sometimes technology \_\_\_\_\_ people improve their relationships with others.

Look at the words you wrote in the blanks. Which of the verbs end in -s?

## 2 Simple Present

### ► Grammar Presentation

The simple present describes habits, general truths, feelings, or thoughts.

*Many people **spend** up to 8 hours a day online.  
I **play** games online every night.  
My sister **loves** to shop online.*

#### 2.1 Affirmative and Negative Statements

AFFIRMATIVE		NEGATIVE	
Subject	Verb	Subject	Do / Does + Not Base Form of Verb
I You We They	<b>shop</b> online.	I You We They	<b>do not don't</b> <b>shop</b> online.
He/She/It	<b>shops</b>	He/She/It	<b>does not doesn't</b>