

PRESENT TENSE IN NORWEGIAN

Present tense is used about actions that either currently or regularly happens.

In Norwegian you simply add –r to the infinitive, for regular verb. Yes, it is that simple and it doesn't change based on who does the action as in English. Just look at the examples below.

å spise - Jeg spiser (I eat)
å drikke - Du drikker (You drink)
å lese - Han leser (He reads)
å bo - Hun bor (She lives/dwells)
å snakke - Vi snakker (we talk)
å se - Dere ser (You see)
å gå - De går (They walk)

As you see above – Norwegian adds “å” in front of the verb in the infinitive, which replaces “to” in the English infinitive.

Unfortunately not all verbs are regular. Norwegian has its share of irregular verbs and two worth mentioning already in the first lesson are:

Infinitive	Present Tense	English
Å være	er	to be
Å gjøre	gjør	to do
Å si	Sier	To say

VERB IN 2ND LOCATION

This rule is one of the most difficult to master and you will probably not master it fully after you have completed this course, or even after you have started to study at an intermediate level. The simple rule is that in a main clause the verb is located in the 2nd position. What this means is that it matters, in Norwegian, whether you say – I work today vs. Today I work. Look at the examples below:

Jeg leser en bok - Nå leser jeg en bok
(I'm reading a book – Now I'm reading a book)

Jeg ser på tv i kveld - I kveld ser jeg på tv
(I watch tv this evening - This evening I watch tv)

Først spiser vi middag, så ser vi på tv
(First we eat dinner, then we watch tv)

This will particularly cause problems when you speak Norwegian and also have to think about numerous other grammatical elements like conjugation of nouns etc.

VOCABULARY

Pronomen (Pronouns)

Jeg - I

Du - You

Han/hun - He/She

Vi - We

Dere – You (Plural)

De – They

Verb - infinitiv.

Å Hete – to be called

Å Komme – to Come

Å Bo – to Live

Å Gjøre – to do

Å Snakke – to speak

Å Skrive – to write

Å Drikke – to drink

Å Lese – to read

Å Spise – to eat

Å Se – to see

Å Vaske – to wash

Å Gå – to walk

Å Sove – to sleep

Og - And

Men – But

Nå - At the moment

QUESTION WORDS OVERVIEW

Hva
(What) Hva heter du? (What is your name?)
 Hva spiser du? (What are you eating?)

Hvem
(Who) Hvem er det? (Who is that)
 Hvem bor her? (Who lives here?)

Hvor
(Where) Hvor bor du? (Where do you live?)
 Hvor er bilen? (Where is the car)

Hvor + adjektiver
(How + adjectives) Hvor stor er stolen? (How big is the chair?)
 Hvor gammel er han? (How old is he?)
 Hvor lang er veien? (How long is the road)

In Norwegian we use "Hvor" in front of adjectives. In **these forms** it then turns into the equivalent of the English word "How".

Hvordan
(How) Hvordan smaker det? (How does it taste?)
 Hvordan har du det? (How are you?)

Hvorfor
(Why) Hvorfor jobber du der? (Why do you work there?)
 Hvorfor bor du med den idioten? (Why are you living with that idiot?)

Når
(When) Når kommer du? (When do you come?)
 Når starter filmen? (When does the movie start?)

A SHORT DIALOG

Tore kommer fra Bergen, og Lise kommer fra Oslo.
Nå er de på kongress i Kristiansand.

Tore: Hei. God morgen. Jeg heter Tore. Hva heter du?

Lise: Jeg heter Lise. Hvor kommer du fra?

Tore: Jeg er fra Bergen. Hvor er du fra?

Lise: Jeg kommer fra Oslo, men nå bor jeg i Arendal.

Tore: Hyggelig å treffe deg. Hva gjør du?

Lise: Jeg er lærer. Hva er du?

Tore: Jeg jobber i butikk. Hva gjør du her?

Lise: Jeg er her på kurs i pedagogikk.

Tore: Mitt kurs begynner nå. Ha det.

Lise: Ha det bra.

New vocabulary:

Hei – hi

God morgen – good morning

Fra – from

På – On (*Prepositions in Norwegian doesn't always follow the same pattern as in English*)

Kongress – congress

Hyggelig – nice

å treffe = to meet

lærer – teacher

butikk – store

kurs – course

pedagogikk - pedagogy

mitt – my (this changes based on gender of the noun – see next chapters)

ha det (bra) – bye (literal meaning is more – “be well” but used automatically as “bye”)

FINAL WORDS

Before watching the next video – write down and remember all the vocabulary from this class. Also remember two other central elements: The “-r” in present tense of regular verbs, and verb in second location in phrases. If you have understood those three elements you are one step further for basic Norwegian.