

How to use the present

IN THIS LESSON, YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO TALK ABOUT THE PRESENT

STARTER

1- Look at the cartoon. Do you like doing any of these activities in your spare time?



GRAMMAR

1 Angela and Robert work for the same company. It is Friday. Listen to their conversation and answer these questions.

- 1 What is Robert doing on Saturday?
- 2 What does Robert's brother do?

2 What is the connection between Robert's brother, Peter, and these places?

- London _____
- Ireland _____
- Kiev _____
- Odessa _____
- Korea _____
- Brazil _____

3 Complete the sentences with the verbs in **bold**. Then listen again to check your answers.

- 1 Is that your brother who **work** in Ireland?
- 2 He **work** on a new factory there at the moment.
- 3 How long he **be** there?
- 4 He always **travel** between the two cities and it's a long way.
- 5 He finds that very frustrating. But he **love** Kiev.

- 6 Anyway he has two more months there and then he **move** to a new project in Korea.
 - 7 What he **do** in his spare time when he's in all these different countries?
 - 8 In the Ukraine he **go out** a lot in the evenings because the people **like** to invite you to their homes.
 - 9 How often you **see** him?
- 4 Tell your teacher everything you know about Robert's brother.

Language box

The present simple

We use the present simple to talk about situations that are true, facts, scientific information, and timetables.

They export most of their production to Europe. (= fact)

Water freezes at zero degrees centigrade. (= scientific information)

The first train leaves at 07.30 a.m. (= timetable)

We also use the present simple for routines or actions that we do regularly.

She works Monday to Friday, but she never works at the weekend.

The present continuous

We use the present continuous to talk about actions or situations happening at this moment in time.

Oh no! Look! It's raining again!

We use the present continuous for actions or situations happening around now.

The marketing department is preparing a new brochure.

The new machine is selling very well.

We use the present continuous for temporary or provisional situations.

We're importing a lot from Chile because of the situation in Europe.

They are using the fax machine because their server is not working

Remember that stative verbs (*think, know, like, love, hate, etc.*) do not usually use the continuous tense.

I love this soup. It tastes delicious.

The present perfect

We can use the present perfect to speak about actions or situations that began in the past and continue now.

I have worked for this company for five years. (= I started five years ago and I continue to work for them)

I haven't seen him since May.

Hint

Use the adverb **always** with the present continuous to show that something makes you angry.

He's **always** arriving late for meetings.

You're **always** phoning me about little problems.

Lesson record

3 new words
from this lesson

3 useful phrases
from this lesson

1

1

2

2

3

3

Things to remember