

# JOB HUNTING

## Present Simple vs Present Continuous

*Letters*  
TO THE EDITOR

### A vicious circle

Dear Sir,  
My son, Kevin, left school two months ago and now <sup>1</sup>**he's looking** for his first job. The problem is that companies always say they want people with experience, but how can he get experience if no one gives him a job? <sup>2</sup>**He reads** the adverts in the paper every day, but there's nothing for people like him. Today <sup>3</sup>**he's doing** some gardening for our neighbours to earn a bit of money, but <sup>4</sup>**he needs** a real job.  
Mrs J McKenzie  
Wolverhampton

### Give me a chance

Dear Sir,  
I read your report on unemployment in yesterday's paper and <sup>5</sup>**I'm writing** to tell you how it feels to be unemployed. I'm 54 years old and I worked for a computer company for 17 years until it closed down four months ago. <sup>6</sup>**I'm applying** for every job I can, but <sup>7</sup>**I never get** an interview because <sup>8</sup>**people think** I'm too old – it's very frustrating. I've got a lot of experience and I want to work. I just need someone to give me a chance.  
George Carter  
Tipton

Read the letters. Which sentences are true or false? Change the false sentences.

1. Kevin is looking for his first job.
2. He reads the job adverts twice a week.
3. He's working in his mother's garden today.
4. George knows a lot about computers.
5. He lost his job two months ago.
6. He goes to a lot of interviews.

Look at the verb forms 1 - 8 in the letters. Classify them in their different usages.

### Present Continuous

Things happening now:

Temporary things:

### Present Simple

Habits and routines:

State verbs:

Read George's email. What's his new job? How did he get it?

Hi Andrew!

Guess what? I <sup>1</sup>ve got. (have got) a new job! <sup>2</sup>..... you ..... (remember) that letter I wrote to the paper? Well, the manager of a local computer company read it and offered me a job! The company <sup>3</sup>..... (do) very well at the moment and they really <sup>4</sup>..... (need) people with experience. I <sup>5</sup>..... (not work) now – it's my lunch break – so I <sup>6</sup>..... (write) a few emails to my friends to tell them my news. I'm a technical support engineer and I <sup>7</sup>..... (help) customers with their computer problems. It's only my first week, so I <sup>8</sup>..... (still learn) about all the products, but I really <sup>9</sup>..... (like) it here. I <sup>10</sup>..... (work) quite long days, but I <sup>11</sup>..... (not work) at the weekends. Anyway, I have to go – the phone <sup>12</sup>..... (ring).

George

Complete the email with verb in brackets using Present Simple or Present Continuous.

Choose the correct answers.

Find someone who...

- 1.... **looks / is looking** for a job at the moment.
- 2.... **has / is having** an interesting job.
- 3.... **studies / is studying** for an exam.
- 4.... usually **gets up / is getting up** before seven o'clock.
- 5.... **wants / is wanting** to live in a different country.
- 6.... **tries / is trying** to stop smoking.
- 7.... **reads / is reading** a newspaper every day.
- 8.... **reads / is reading** a good book at the moment.