

BUSINESS ENGLISH

PRESENT SIMPLE OR PRESENT SIMPLE CONTINUOUS?

EXERCISE 1: Complete the text below with the appropriate present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in the box.

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Our company is among the ten largest in the country. We already (1) _____ SANWA International, the successful chemicals company. In addition, we (2) _____ to break into the new consumer markets of Central and Eastern Europe. For example, we (3) _____ a new subsidiary in Bratislava next month. That is why this week I (4) _____ candidates for the top jobs in Slovakia. We (5) _____ well over 3,000 people, and this number (6) _____ all the time.

EXERCISE 2. TASK 1: Complete the text below with the appropriate present simple or present continuous form of the verbs given in brackets. Write the verbs in **FULL FORMS** where necessary, e.g., **ARE NOT**, etc.

Ralf Hinze (1) _____ (work) in the R&D department of the Antwerp-based company Merlin Foods Ltd, where he (2) _____ (manage) a team of five responsible for all organic products under the brand name *Sunnyvale*. They (3) _____ (develop) about three new products each year. This week, however, Ralf (4) _____ (not/be) in the office. He (5) _____ (work) in the lab. He (6) _____ (supervise) the testing of an innovative range of soups and dressings, and (7) _____ (write) a report.

He (8) _____ (enjoy) his job and (9) _____ (be) proud of his company. Indeed, Merlin Foods (10) _____ (expand) rapidly. It (11) _____ (have) subsidiaries in France and Germany and (12) _____ (own) Kilkenny Dairies. Sales and earnings for the company (13) _____ (increase) far beyond expectations. *The Sunnyvale* brand in particular (14) _____ (become) hugely popular throughout Europe.

EXERCISE 2. TASK 2: Study the information in TASK 1. Then write the questions for these answers.

1. _____ ? In the R&D department at Merlin Foods Ltd.
2. _____ ? About three each year.
3. _____ ? In the lab.
4. _____ ? He is supervising the testing of some new products.
5. _____ ? Yes, he does. (He enjoys his job).
6. _____ ? In France and Germany.
7. _____ ? Yes, indeed. Far beyond expectations!