

I am doing (present continuous) and
I do (present simple)

A

Jack is watching television.
He is **not** playing the guitar.
But Jack has a guitar.
He often plays it and he plays very well.
Jack **plays** the guitar,
but he **is not playing** the guitar now.



Is he **playing** the guitar? **No, he isn't.** (present continuous)
Does he **play** the guitar? **Yes, he does.** (present simple)

B

Present continuous (**I am doing**) = now, at the time of speaking:

I'm doing

past now future

- ☐ Please be quiet. **I'm working.** (not I work)
- ☐ Tom **is having** a shower at the moment. (not Tom has)
- ☐ Take an umbrella with you. **It's raining.**
- ☐ You can turn off the television. **I'm not watching** it.
- ☐ Why are you under the table? What **are** you **doing**?

C

Present simple (**I do**) = in general, all the time or sometimes:

I do

past now future

- ☐ I **work** every day from 9 o'clock to 5.30.
- ☐ Tom **has** a shower every morning.
- ☐ It **rains** a lot in winter.
- ☐ I **don't watch** TV very often.
- ☐ What **do** you usually **do** at weekends?

D

We do **not** use these verbs in the present continuous (**I am -ing**):

like	want	know	understand	remember
prefer	need	mean	believe	forget

Use only the present simple with these verbs (**I want / do you like?** etc.):

- ☐ I'm tired. I **want** to go home. (not I'm wanting)
- ☐ 'Do you **know** that girl?' 'Yes, but I **don't remember** her name.'
- ☐ I **don't understand**. What **do** you **mean**?

Exercises

Unit
8

8.1 Answer the questions about the pictures.



Does he take photographs? Yes, he does.
Is he taking a photograph? No, he isn't.
What is he doing?
He's having a bath.



Is she driving a bus?
Does she drive a bus?
What is she doing?



Does he clean windows?
Is he cleaning a window?
What is he doing?



Are they teaching?
Do they teach?
What do they do?

8.2 Complete the sentences with **am/is/are** or **do/don't/does/doesn't**.

- Excuse me, do you speak English?
- 'Where's Kate?' 'I don't know.'
- What's funny? Why are you laughing?
- 'What does your sister do?' 'She's a dentist.'
- It is raining. I don't want to go out in the rain.
- 'Where do you come from?' 'Canada.'
- How much does it cost to stay at this hotel? Is it expensive?
- Steve is a good tennis player, but he doesn't play very often.

8.3 Put the verb in the present continuous (**I am doing**) or the present simple (**I do**).

- Excuse me, do you speak (you/speak) English?
- 'Where's Tom?' ' He's having (he/have) a shower.'
- I don't watch (I/not/watch) TV very often.
- Listen! Somebody is singing (sing).
- Sarah is tired. she wants (she/want) to go home now.
- How often do you use (you/use) your car? Every day?
- 'Excuse me, but are you sitting (you/sit) in my seat?' 'Oh, I'm sorry.'
- I'm sorry, I don't understand (I/not/understand). Can you speak more slowly?
- It's late. I'm going (I/go) home now.
(you/come) with me?
- What time do your father / finish (your father / finish) work every day?
- You can turn off the radio. I don't listen (I/not/listen) to it.
- 'Where's Paul?' 'In the kitchen. he's cooking (he/cook) something.'
- Mark doesn't usually drive (not/usually/drive) to work. He
usually walks (usually/walk).
- Sue doesn't like (not/like) coffee. she prefers (she/prefer) tea.