

# PRESENT SIMPLE vs. PRESENT CONTINUOUS

## PRESENT SIMPLE

### AFFIRMATIVE

I play football  
You

He  
She plays football  
It

We play football  
They

### Spelling rules:

After O, SS, SH, X, CH : -ES  
E.g: I do - He do**ES**

After CONSONANT + Y : -IES  
E.g: I worry - he wor**RIES**

### NEGATIVE

I DON'T play  
You

He  
She DOESN'T play  
It

We DON'T play  
They

### INTERROGATIVE

Do you play football?

Does she play football?

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS (TO BE + -ING)

### AFFIRMATIVE

I am

You are play**ING**

He is

...

### NEGATIVE

I'm not

You aren't play**ING**

He isn't

...

### INTERROGATIVE

Are you play**ING**?

Is he play**ING**?

...

### Spelling rules:

- Silent e is dropped. E.g: come - coming
- After consonant, vowel, consonant the final consonant is doubled. E.g: sit - sitting
- Final ie becomes y. E.g: lie - lying

### USE

To describe what people are doing or things happening AT THIS MOMENT.

### SIGNAL WORDS

at the moment  
Today  
Tonight  
now  
right now  
Listen!  
Look!

## Present Simple & Present Continuous

### Present Simple



### Present Continuous



### S + verb

### S + am/is/are (not) + V-ing

### Express general truths

E.g: It rarely rains in the desert.

### Describe actions happening now

E.g: She is reading a newspaper upstairs.

### Indicate present habits

E.g: The birds return to the island every morning.

### Express annoying habits (+ always)

E.g: You're always forgetting to pay the bills.

### Express timetable events

E.g: The plane to London takes off at 6:30 a.m.

### Describe future arrangements

E.g: She's getting married on 3 November.

### Indicate permanent states

E.g: I like the new James Bond film.

### Express temporary states

E.g: She's working at the museum until the end of this month.



**Complete the sentences using Present Simple or Present Continuous of the verbs in brackets.**

1. John sometimes (go) to the disco, because he (like) it very much.
2. We (not study) English at the moment. We (study) Maths.
3. The girls (play) basketball every Saturday. They (not play) now.
4. I often (write) poems and songs, but now I (write) a novel.
5. Tracy (listen) to her new CD on her walkman. I can hear the noise.
6. (you, watch) this TV programme at the moment?
7. My father (work, usually) in the office, but today he (work) at home.
8. The boys (not train) in the stadium, they (train, always) in the park.
9. My brother never (do) his homework, he (not like) school very much.
10. (she, work, usually) in this room? Yes, but today she isn't.
11. They (not study) Maths now, they (learn) Science.
12. Jane usually (read) music magazines, but now she (read) a novel.
13. The children (run) in the middle of the street. I can see them from the window.
14. What (you, listen) on the radio now?
15. Stan and I (meet) our friends at football practice twice a week.
16. He (always / complain) about everything.
17. Brian (watch) television every evening.
18. We usually (do) our homework together.
19. Tom and Mark (not want) to go to the museum.
20. Peter (wash) the car on Sundays?
21. They (close) the bank early tomorrow for construction.
22. Brenda (take) her sister to the park now?
23. Jill (not write) an e-mail right now.
24. you (sit) in the classroom now?
25. Don't make a noise! The teacher (speak).
26. Mary (travel) home at the moment.
27. I (work) from home today because my daughter's sick.
28. Robert often (study) in the evening.
29. I (not know) anything about the theatre.

## Present Simple or Continuous? Choose the correct alternative(s) in the sentences

Today she 's spending / spends time with her grandmother.

They usually are going / go to the gym on Sundays.

We 're having / have a barbecue later on. Do you want to come?

No, she can't answer the phone, she has / is having a shower.

I always have / am having a coffee before I 'm leaving / leave for work in the morning.

They sometimes fly / are flying to Sweden, but usually they are going / go by boat.

Where are you? I 'm sitting / sit outside in the sunshine!

He always brings / is bringing a monolingual dictionary to his English class.

## Put the verbs into the correct tense (present simple or present continuous)

Harold Black's a famous pianist. He (give) two or three concerts every week.

He (travel) a lot and this week he's in New York. He (stay) at an expensive hotel.

He's at his hotel now. He (have) his breakfast in the dining-room.

He (drink) a cup of coffee and he (read) a newspaper. Harold's always

very busy. He (play) the piano regularly. He (practise) for four

hours every day. He (go) to bed late and he always (get up)

early. But he sometimes (get) dressed too quickly, and this morning he (wear)

one blue sock and one red one!



eat not eat play (x2) study  
teach walk (x2)

It's 8.30! At the moment, Hasan to school. He always to school.

It's 9.00! Hasan's first lesson is maths. He maths on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Today, the teacher the students about algebra.

It's 11.00! It's a PE lesson. In PE lessons, the students usually football or handball,

but at the moment they tennis. It's 12.30! Right now, Hasan a sandwich.

He a sandwich every day. Sometimes he has a pizza or a salad.