PRESENT SIMPLE VS PRESENT CONTINUOUS EXERCISES

1. Put the verbs into the correct tense (present simple OR present continuous):

The train always _____(1: leave) on time.

"What's the matter? Why _____(2: cry/you)?"

That's strange. They_____(3: not to watch) TV.

He_____(4: not to speak) very good English.

Please be quiet! I_____(5: do) my homework.

Where_____(6: live/they)?

Listen! John _____ music! (7: play)

I never _____(8: go) to the swimming pool.

Harold Black's a famous pianist. He_____(9: give) two or three concerts every week. He _____(10: travel) a lot and this week he's in New York. He_____(11: stay) at an expensive hotel. He's at his hotel now. He_____(12: have) his breakfast in the dining-room. He_____(13: drink) a cup of coffee and he_____(14: read) a newspaper. Harold's always very busy. He_____(15: play) the piano regularly. He_____(16: practise) for four hours every day. He_____(17: go) to bed late and he always _____(18: get up) early. But he sometimes_____(19: get) dressed too quickly, and this morning he_____(20: wear) one blue sock and one red one!

2. Complete the sentences below using one of the verbs in the box in the correct form. You may use each verb once only.

enjoy	play	work	know	wait	finish
prefer	produce	seem	interview	talk	

1. I always _____ tennis on Fridays.
2. He _____ his report. He will bring it into the office when it is complete.
3. "My parents phoned me this morning. They _____ themselves in

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the Seychelles. Champagne every night! In fact, they don't want to leave."

4. We _____ to entertain our guests in a local restaurant rather than the canteen. Although it is expensive, we can talk freely there.
5. I _____ the answer to your problem. Get a new computer.
6. "Where is John?" "In his office _____ for an important telephone call."
7. I can't make the meeting tomorrow. I _____ the applicants for the sales manager's job.
8. My brother _____ for Shink Inc. which makes bathroom fittings.
9. Who _____ to Bill? Is it the new secretary?
10. The new contract _____ fine to me. However, could you just check it through once more?

3. Choose the correct form for each verb.

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1. Marie-Claude isn't a Canadian. I _____ she comes from France.
   - A. ✔ believe
   - B. ? am believing
2. Look! Junko _____ into the water.
   - A. ? jumps
   - B. ? is jumping
3. I _____ you're crazy!
   - A. ? think
   - B. ? am thinking
4. Don't give Jan any cheese. She _____ it!
   - A. ? hates
   - B. ? is hating
5. I _____ to Toronto next Thursday. Do you want to come?
   - A. ? go
   - B. ? am going
6. Once a week, I _____ to an art class at the college.
   - A. ? go

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B. ? am going

7. I _____ lunch in the cafeteria every day.
   A. ? have

   B. ? am having

8. Salman is rich — he _____ a Mercedes.
   A. ? drives

   B. ? is driving

9. You won't find Jerry at home right now. He _____ in the library.
   A. ? studies

   B. ? is studying

10. It _____ quite hard — perhaps we shouldn't go out tonight.
   A. ? snows

   B. ? is snowing

4. Put the verb in brackets in the correct form (present simple or present continuous)

Next week, my friends and I _____ (go) camping in the woods. I _____ (organize) the food, because I _____ (like) cooking. Dave _____ (have) a big car with a trailer, so he _____ (plan) the transportation. Sam _____ (bring) the tent — he _____ (go) camping every year, so he _____ (have) a great tent and lots of other equipment. My wife _____ (think) we're crazy. She (like) _____ holidays in comfortable hotels, so she _____ (take) a trip to Paris instead.

5. Present Simple or Continuous? Choose the correct alternative(s) in the sentences 1-8 below.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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KEY

EXERCISE 1

1. leaves | 2. are you crying | 3. are not watching (= aren't watching) | 4. does not speak (= doesn't speak) | 5. Am doing | 6. do they live | 7. is playing | 8. Go 9. gives | 10. travels | 11. is staying (= he's staying) | 12. is having | 13. is drinking | 14. is reading | 15. plays | 16. practises | 17. doesn't go | 18. gets up | 19. gets | 20. is wearing

EXERCISE 2

1. I always play tennis on Fridays.
2. He is finishing his report. He will bring it into the office when it is complete.
3. "My parents phoned me this morning. They are enjoying themselves in the Seychelles. Champagne every night! In fact, they don't want to leave."
4. We prefer to entertain our guests in a local restaurant rather than the canteen. Although it is expensive, we can talk freely there.
5. I know the answer to your problem. Get a new computer.
6. "Where is John?" "In his office waiting for an important telephone call."
7. I can't make the meeting tomorrow. I am interviewing the applicants for the sales manager's job.
8. My brother works for Shink Inc. which makes bathroom fittings.
9. Who is talking to Bill? Is it the new secretary?
10. The new contract seems fine to me. However, could you just check it through once more?

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EXERCISE 4

Next week, my friends and I **are going** (go) camping in the woods. I **am organizing** (organize) the food, because I **like** (like) cooking. Dave **has** (have) a big car with a trailer, so he **is planning** (plan) the transportation. Sam **is bringing**(bring) the tent — he **goes** (go) camping every year, so he **has** (have) a great tent and lots of other equipment. My wife **thinks** (think) we're crazy. She **likes** (like) holidays in comfortable hotels, so she **is taking** (take) a trip to Paris instead.

EXERCISE 5

1 she's spending 2 go 3 We're having 4 she's having 5 have 6 fly/go 7 I'm sitting 8 brings

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