

Present simple and continuous

► **GRAMMAR** REFERENCE p.176

1 Look at the sentences and decide whether they should be in the simple or continuous form. Then discuss why.

- 1 My son's *always downloading*/*always downloads* music instead of getting on with his work.
- 2 I *work*/*'m working* overtime this month while the music editor is on sick leave.
- 3 Someone *plays*/*'s playing* the piano. Can you hear it?
- 4 Did you know that band *comes*/*'s coming* from my home town?
- 5 I *get*/*'m getting* better at recognising classical music.
- 6 I *take*/*'m taking* my iPod everywhere.

2 Match the uses of the present simple and present continuous with the examples in Activity 1.

- A a repeated action/habit
- B a permanent situation/fact
- C an activity happening at the moment of speaking
- D an activity in progress but not at this exact moment
- E a changing or developing situation
- F emphasises repetition of typical (often annoying or surprising) behaviour

4 Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I (*not like*) pop music.
- 2 The band (*appear*) in Manchester all week.
- 3 I can't hear what you (*say*). It's too loud.
- 4 I (*think*) it's dangerous to listen to your iPod when you're riding a bike.
- 5 You can never have a conversation with her – she (*always check*) her phone for messages.
- 6 That band (*get*) more and more popular.
- 7 We (*often go*) to a jazz club on Friday nights.
- 8 You (*be*) very difficult today!

Vocabulary

phrasal verbs with *take*

1 Match the phrasal verbs in 1–5 with meanings A–E.

- 1 His career *took off* as soon as he won the prize: he's so talented.
 - 2 He *takes after* his father, who's also really musical.
 - 3 I *took up* the saxophone last year.
 - 4 Tom *took over* as the band's manager when Sam left.
 - 5 I made him *take back* what he said about my taste in music.
-
- A have similar characteristics
 - B become responsible for something
 - C start an activity
 - D admit you are wrong
 - E become successful