

# GRAMMAR

## 1. PRESENT SIMPLE / PRESENT PROGRESSIVE

A. Look at the sentences below appearing in exercise 3 on page 8 and answer the questions that follow.

1. You **are visiting** the USA this month...
2. You **are spending** next summer's vacation with your friends...
3. Your parents **usually go on** trips where lodging and meals are all-inclusive.
4. Your father **works for** a big company...

- Which sentence refers to a permanent situation? Which tense is used? ☐
- Which sentence refers to a repeated habitual action? Which tense is used? ☐
- Which sentence refers to an action happening at or around the time of speaking? Which tense is used? ☐
- Which sentence refers to a planned future action? Which tense is used? ☐

B. Match the rules about other uses of the Present Simple and the Present Progressive with the examples 1-8.

The Present Simple is used:

- for general truths ☐
- for future actions related to timetables and programmes ☐
- to refer to the plot of a book, film, TV programme, etc. ☐
- in sports commentaries ☐
- in exclamatory sentences with *Here...* and *There...* ☐

The Present Progressive is used:

- for temporary states ☐
- for situations which are changing or developing around the present time ☐
- with *always*, *constantly* and *continually* to express annoyance ☐

1. Water freezes at 0° Centigrade.
2. You are always leaving my CDs on the floor!
3. Here comes the train!
4. In this week's episode, Sandra meets Alan again.

5. My brother is working as a lifeguard this summer.
6. Robinson passes to Neil.
7. The train to Bristol departs at 4:55.
8. Tourism is becoming an important industry in many developing countries.

## 2. STATIVE AND NON-STATIVE VERBS

A. Look at the sentences below appearing in exercise 3 on page 8 and answer the questions that follow.

1. One of your friends **wants to go on** a trip with you, but he is not very fit.
  2. You **are thinking of taking** a trip that will bring you close to nature.
  3. You **think that** a vacation should also have some educational value.
- What does your friend want to do? When? Why is the Present Simple used here?
  - What is the difference between *you are thinking* and *you think*?

B. Read the rule below and add two verbs to each group.

The following groups of verbs express states - not actions - and are not used in progressive tenses.

- verbs of the senses (see, hear, feel, etc.)
- verbs of emotions and preferences (like, hate, want, prefer, etc.)
- verbs of perception, belief and knowledge (know, believe, remember, etc.)
- verbs of ownership (have, possess, etc.)
- other verbs which describe permanent states (be, cost, seem, etc.)

**NOTE** Some stative verbs (*have*, *see*, *taste*, etc.) are used in progressive tenses when they express actions rather than states.

*This cheese tastes like paper.*  
*The chef is tasting the soup to see if there is enough salt in it.*

Grammar Reference p. 164.

www.letschat.net

RU 15 Hi, Rono! What's up?

Rono I'm surprised to find you here! You (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (usually / go) swimming at this time. What (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (you / do) here?

RU 15 You're right. I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) I have a cold at the moment.

Rono Sorry to hear that. I hope you (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (not feel) too bad.

RU 15 Thanks, it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (seem) to be getting better. What's up with you?

Rono Oh, you (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (know) me. I love going out. A gang of us from the gym (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to that new place on Market Street this weekend. Do you (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (want) to meet up?

RU 15 That (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (sound) like a great idea. Who else (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (come)?

Rono Well, let me think. Of course, Josh and Lisa. My sister (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) of asking some friends from her aerobics class, too.

RU 15 Great! What should I wear?

Rono Something casual. I (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (get) a new pair of trainers on Friday, so I'll wear them and I (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (guess), I'll put on some smart jeans and a T-shirt.

RU 15 Thanks for the invitation. I have to sign off now. I (14) \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a headache.

Rono I (15) \_\_\_\_\_ (understand) mate. Get some rest! We'll chat later.

RU 15 Right, bye!