

Present Forms

1



Listen and repeat. Then act out.



Present Simple	Present Continuous	Present Perfect	Present Perfect Continuous
permanent situations or states <i>She works as a nurse.</i> <i>She owns a large shop.</i>	temporary situations <i>They're staying at the Park Hotel at present.</i>	recently completed actions <i>She has tidied her room.</i> <i>(She has finished tidying her room. You can see it is tidy now – evidence in the present.)</i>	actions started in the past and continuing up to the present <i>He's been writing a letter for two hours. (He started two hours ago and he's still writing.)</i>
repeated / habitual actions (especially with frequency adverbs: often, usually, etc.) <i>I usually get up at 7:30 am.</i>	actions happening at or around the moment of speaking <i>She is looking for a better job.</i>	actions which happened at an unstated time in the past and are connected with the present <i>He has lost his keys. (He is still looking for them.)</i>	past actions of certain duration having visible results or effects in the present <i>She's been crying. (Her eyes are red.)</i>
permanent truths or laws of nature <i>Money doesn't buy happiness.</i> <i>Water freezes at 0°C.</i>	repeated actions with 'always' expressing annoyance or criticism <i>She's always interrupting me!</i>	personal experiences / change that has happened over a period of time <i>I've lost weight.</i>	actions expressing anger, irritation, annoyance, explanation or criticism <i>Who has been using my hairbrush? (annoyance)</i>
timetables / programmes (future meaning) <i>The match finishes at 7:45 pm.</i> <i>The plane leaves at 6:05 am.</i>	fixed arrangements in the near future <i>The Browns are visiting us tonight. (It's all arranged.)</i>	emphasis on number <i>She's written three letters since this morning.</i> <i>She has spoken to two clients since 12 o'clock.</i>	emphasis on duration (usually with for, since or how long) <i>They have been speaking in his office for the last hour.</i>
reviews / sports commentaries / dramatic narratives <i>Angelina Jolie acts brilliantly in this film.</i>	changing or developing situations <i>His English is getting better.</i>	Note: live, feel and work can be used either in the present perfect or the present perfect continuous with no difference in meaning. <i>I've been living / I've lived in Rome for a year.</i>	

1

Present Forms

Time expressions used with:	
Present Simple	every day / week / month / year, usually, often, always, rarely, never, sometimes, in the morning / evening / afternoon, at night, on Mondays, etc.
Present Continuous	now, at the moment, at present, nowadays, today, tonight, always, still, etc.
Present Perfect	just, ever, never, already, yet (negations & questions), always, how long, so far, recently, since (= from a starting point in the past), for (= over a period of time), today, this week / month, etc.
Present Perfect Continuous	how long, for, since

- 1 Write the 3rd person singular of the verbs and put them into the correct column. Then read them out.

get	play	buy	drop	say	write	dry	reach	smash	drive
watch	fly	go	kiss	cry	mix	sneeze	pay	try	
+ s		-ss, -sh, -ch, -x, -o + es			vowel + y + s		consonant + y → -ies		
gets,		watches,			plays,		flies,		

- 2 Add -ing to the following verbs and put them into the correct column. Then read them out.

listen	use	bring	tie	hope	die	come	put
lie	rub	run	dive	go	cry	travel	
+ ing		-ie → y + ing		-e → ing		double consonant + ing	
listening,		lying,		using,		rubbing,	

- 3 Write the past participle of the following verbs.

1 break ... broken ...	3 swim	5 bring	7 write
2 meet	4 finish	6 send	8 read

- 4 Match the sentences (1–10) to the correct description (a–j).

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 He drinks a litre of milk every day. | a emphasis on duration |
| 2 Milk contains a lot of vitamins. | b temporary situation |
| 3 He is getting stronger. | c repeated action expressing annoyance |
| 4 She has just passed her exams. | d emphasis on number |
| 5 She is having a party at the moment. | e habitual action |
| 6 He has been working all day. | f recently completed action |
| 7 She has phoned him three times this morning. | g permanent truth |
| 8 He is always borrowing money from me. | h changing or developing situation |
| 9 Her feet are aching. She has been walking all morning. | i fixed arrangement in the near future |
| 10 They are getting married next week. | j past action of certain duration having visible results in the present |

1e.....	3	5	7	9
2	4	6	8	10

- 5 Complete the advertisement with the verbs in brackets. Use the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

Adopt an Animal

TODAY

The Animal Adoption Society 1) *needs* **(need)** your help! At the moment, we 2) **(have)** more than 20 dogs and 35 cats that desperately need a home. We 3) **(look)** for people who 4) **(love)** animals and who 5) **(take)** good care of pets. 6) **(you/want)** to adopt one of our adorable animals? We 7) **(have)** an open day this weekend. Please come! Adoption 8) **(be)** completely free!




- 6 Fill in with the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

Claire: Hi, Mum. It's me!
 Mum: Claire! What a lovely surprise! 1) *Are you calling* **(you/call)** from work?
 Claire: Yes. I 2) **(be)** on my lunch break at the moment.
 Mum: Is everything all right? You 3) **(usually/not call)** me from work.
 Claire: Everything's fine! I just want you to know that Sarah and I 4) **(come)** home this weekend. I 5) **(book)** our train tickets online right now.
 Mum: Wonderful!
 Claire: Our train 6) **(leave)** London at 5:15 pm and 7) **(arrive)** in Liverpool at 7:45 pm.
 Mum: Great. See you soon then!

Adverbs of Frequency

- Adverbs of frequency tell us **how often** something happens.
- Adverbs of frequency (**always, usually, often, sometimes, seldom/rarely, never**, etc.) come before the main verb (**read, work**, etc.) but after the verb **to be**, auxiliary verbs (**do, have**, etc.) or modal verbs (**can, should**, etc.). However, adverbs of frequency go before auxiliary verbs in short answers.

Tina **often goes** skiing at the weekend.
 Ben **is sometimes** rude to other people.
 You **can always** call me if you need help.

"Do you help your mum with the housework?"
 "Yes, I **usually do**."

- The adverbs **never, seldom** and **rarely** have a negative meaning and are never used with the word **not**. I **rarely** go to bed late. (NOT: ~~I rarely don't go~~ ...)

1

Present Forms

7

Read about Layla's daily routine and make sentences as in the example. Use adverbs of frequency (*always, often, sometimes, rarely, never*).



Layla's Daily Routine

- go to school by bike Monday to Thursday, walk to school on Friday
- wear casual clothes at school
- do homework every afternoon
- go swimming after school Monday to Thursday
- walk the dog after dinner Monday to Wednesday

- 1 Layla *rarely walks* to school.
- 2 She a uniform at school.
- 3 She her homework in the afternoon.
- 4 She swimming after school.
- 5 She after dinner.

8

Form questions then answer them.

- 1 you / always / go to the cinema on Saturdays?
.. *Do you always go to the cinema on Saturdays? Yes, I do. / No, I don't.* ..
- 2 your family / often / eat out?
.....
- 3 you / usually / have dinner at 8:00 pm?
.....
- 4 you / often / hang out with your friends?
.....
- 5 your dad / usually / wash the dishes?
.....

Stative Verbs

Verbs describing a permanent state (stative verbs) do not normally have continuous forms. These are:

- **verbs of the senses:** see, hear, smell, feel, taste, etc. (We often use *can* or *could* with these verbs.) *Can you see that tall boy over there?*

However, the verbs *look*, *watch* and *listen* express deliberate actions and can be used in continuous forms. *Be quiet please! I'm listening to the news. BUT I can't hear you. Can you speak louder, please?*

Note: The verbs *feel* and *hurt* can be used in either continuous or simple forms.

A: *How are you feeling today? / How do you feel today?*

B: *My leg is hurting. / My leg hurts.*

- **verbs of opinion:** agree, believe, consider, etc. *I believe he's telling the truth.*
- **verbs of emotion:** feel, forgive, hate, like, love, etc. *Harry likes rock music.*
- **other verbs:** appear (= seem), be, belong, fit (= be the right shape and size for sth), have (= possess), know, look (= appear), need, prefer, require, want, weigh, wish, etc. *He knows where Peter is. (NOT: ~~is knowing~~)*