Contrast: present simple and present continuous

I can distinguish the use of the present simple and present continuous.

1 Complete the dialogues with the correct present simple form of the verbs in brackets.

1 A: _____ (you / go) to the gym every day?
B: No, I _____ (not go) every day. I _____ (go) three times a week.

2 A: _____ (Sam / study) at your school?
B: No, he _____ (not study) there. He _____ (study) at a private school.

3 A: Does your mother _____ (teach) English?
B: Yes, she does. She also _____ (teach) French and Spanish. She _____ (be) very good at languages.

4 A: _____ (your parents / work) in London?
B: No, they don't. They both _____ (work) in Oxford.

5 A: _____ (you / practise) much before you perform a new play?
B: Yes, we _____ (practise) for weeks before the first performance, and the director _____ (make) a lot of changes.

2 Complete the voice message with the correct present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Steve! It's Sean. How are things? I hope you are well. [1] _____ (you / have) a good time in Hull? I [2] _____ (call) from my grandparents' house in Cornwall. My sister and I [3] _____ (stay) here for a couple of weeks, and we [4] _____ (enjoy) it a lot. I [5] _____ (plan) to study for my exams later, but now I [6] _____ (relax). I'm not totally lazy, though – I [7] _____ (run) every morning. Jake and I [8] _____ (think) about spending a month in Spain. Would you like to go with us? Let me know! Well, the sun [9] _____ (shine) so I think I'll go for a walk. Bye!

3 Match sentences a–f with the uses of the present tense (1–6).

1 something that happens regularly ☐
2 verbs not used in continuous tenses ☐
3 something happening at this moment ☐
4 stating a fact or law ☐
5 something happening around this time ☐
6 a future plan ☐

a I am leaving for London at 6 a.m. tomorrow.
b The Earth goes around the sun.
c I always play basketball on Saturdays.
d They are spending a lot of time together these days.
e I need some help with homework.
f Look outside – it's snowing!

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

1 Josh _____ at least one point in every game he plays. (score)
2 I _____ that they will give Kate a place on the team. (believe)
3 Susan _____ to finish her homework today. (try)
4 My dad _____ Chinese food tonight. (cook)
5 My brother loves books. He _____ a book every week. (read)
6 I _____ all of my old *Friends* DVDs this week. (watch)
7 Sam _____ before 7 a.m., even on Sundays. (get up)
8 Look out of the window. A big storm _____ ! (come)
9 Lisa usually _____ video games when she gets home. (play)
10 I _____ what you're saying, but I don't agree with it. (understand)

5 Complete the email with the correct present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

To: lauren@email.com

Hi Lauren

How [1] _____ (be) everything? I hope you [2] _____ (have) a great time at football camp this week. I [3] _____ (enjoy) my summer drama project. Every summer we [4] _____ (put on) a play by Shakespeare, and this year we [5] _____ (work) on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It's a great play because it [6] _____ (have) so many different roles. We [7] _____ (practise) about six hours a day and we're performing the play in public next week. I [8] _____ (try) very hard to learn my lines. I [9] _____ (play) two parts in the play, and sometimes I [10] _____ (forget) which part I'm playing! Anyway, I [11] _____ (believe) it will be a great performance. My grandparents [12] _____ (travel) from Leeds next week just to see me in the play. I know you [13] _____ (be) very busy at camp, but I [14] _____ (hope) to hear from you soon.

Take care!

Daisy

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