

Grammar

Simple present and present progressive

1 Match the uses of the simple present or present progressive (a–g) with the example sentences (1–7).

a state that 1 He's staying with us this week until his new apartment is ready.

b background 2 I come from a big city in Vietnam.

c a changing 3 I don't know how to ski.

d an action 4 I'm eating my lunch around now.

e an action 5 I'm learning to drive now.

f an action in 6 In this photo, we're playing football on the beach.

g a stative verb 7 This is a photo of the river that goes through my town.

2 Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

1 We *live* / *are living* in a very small village and nothing ever *changes* / *is changing* here.

2 A lot of people *buy* / *are buying* smart TVs at the moment because internet speeds *get* / *are getting* faster.

3 *I eat* / *I'm eating* a lot of meat, but it's true that more people *become* / *are becoming* vegan or vegetarian.

4 Online shopping *gets* / *is getting* easier these days. It's great for me because I *don't enjoy* / *am not enjoying* going to malls.

3 Complete the questions and answers with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

1 Q: How many languages ¹ _____ (you / speak)?
A: Well, ² _____ (I / know) some Spanish and how to say "Hello" in Japanese.

B: Only one! But ³ _____ (my friend / try) to teach me Mandarin!

2 Q: ⁴ _____ (you / cook) a lot?
A: Yes, ⁵ _____ (I / make) all the food at home.

B: No, not at all. Usually ⁶ _____ (I / eat) takeout.

3 Q: What ⁷ _____ (you / study) at college this year?
A: ⁸ _____ (I / do) a teaching degree.

B: Oh, I'm not a student. ⁹ _____ (I / look) for a job, actually.

4 Q: ¹⁰ _____ (you / work) from home at the moment?
A: No, ¹¹ _____ (I / need) to be in the office every day.

B: Yes, I am. ¹² _____ (I / work) from home every Friday.

4 Write your own answers to the questions from Exercise 3. Use the simple present or present progressive form.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____



5 Complete the sentences with the simple present or present progressive form of these verbs.

agree	believe	have	know
need	prefer	not / remember	think

- 1 _____ you _____ with our suggestions for the weekend?
- 2 I _____ about buying a new phone.
I _____ one with a better camera.
- 3 I _____ the name of my first teacher.
- 4 _____ you _____ you can change your personality?
- 5 My friend _____ problems in his new job, but I _____ he'll be fine soon.
- 6 Everyone in my family _____ tea over coffee—except me!

Look at the Learning to Learn box. Then do the task.

LEARNING TO LEARN: GRAMMAR

Translating into your own language

Sometimes, English grammar forms are used in a similar way in your own language. Sometimes, the forms are very different. You can remember the different forms and when to use them by translating a sentence that you can memorize. For example, look at the present progressive question below. When do you ask this question? Does your own language use a progressive form? Write the translation.

What are you doing?

Translate the conversations from Exercise 3 into your own language. Are the simple present and progressive forms used in the same way? Choose one or two examples to memorize.