

Present continuous and present simple

7

Choose the correct alternative.

From: Pedro Martinez pm3@rygl.com**To:** Kai Muller**Subject:** Hi from Canada

Hi Kai

(1) I'm having / I have a great time here in Canada. My MSc course (2) isn't starting / doesn't start until next month, at the beginning of September, so (3) I'm making / I make use of the time to get to know the place. (4) I'm staying / I stay near Vancouver with Ryan, my Canadian cousin. He and his brother Liam (5) are owning / own a software business.

In the evenings (6) we're driving / we drive into the city and go clubbing or see a movie. (7) I'm making / I make a lot of new friends. (8) I'm thinking / I think my pronunciation is much better already, and (9) I'm understanding / I understand almost everything. On weekdays (10) I'm helping / I help Liam. At the moment (11) he's working / he works on their new website and (12) he's needing / he needs help with it. (13) I'm learning / I learn some useful stuff about how people (14) are doing / do business in this country.

(15) Do you come / Are you coming to see me? (16) I'm spending / I spend the winter holiday skiing with Ryan and Liam. (17) They're wanting / They want to meet you and there's plenty of space. You must bring lots of warm clothes because (18) it's getting / it gets really cold here in the winter. Let me know as soon as (19) you're deciding / you decide. And tell me what (20) you're doing / you do these days.

See you in December, I hope.

Pedro

8

Choose words from the box and make sentences ending as shown. Use verbs in the present continuous or present simple and any other words you need.

I	My best friend	My boss	My boyfriend	My classmates	My family
	My father	My sister	My wife	None of my friends	Our children
	Our next-door neighbour	Our teacher	Several of my colleagues		

1	My boyfriend is studying for his final exams	this term.
2	My sister doesn't go to the cinema	very often.
3	My classmates aren't talking much	right now.
4	this year.
5	every week.
6	at the moment.
7	this year.
8	at weekends.
9	this term.
10	right now.

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9

Put the verbs into the correct form: present continuous or present simple.

Tony Hunt, a journalist, is interviewing Leila Markham, an environmental scientist.

TONY: So tell me, Leila, why is it important to save the rainforests?



LEILA: There are so many reasons. One reason is that lots of the plants which (1) ... grow ... (grow) in the rainforest could be useful in medicine.

We (2) (not / know) all the plants, but there are tens of thousands of them. Chemists and doctors (3) (try) to discover their secrets before they are destroyed.

TONY: I see. What other reasons are there?

LEILA: Well, scientists (4) (believe) that the rainforests (5) (have) an influence on the world's weather systems and this (6) (help) to slow down global warming. But, unfortunately, these days the forests (7) (disappear) at a terrifying rate and we (8) (not / do) enough to save them.

TONY: What is the main danger of global warming, in your opinion?

LEILA: The polar regions (9) (consist) of millions of tons of ice. If they (10) (melt), the level of the sea will rise and cause terrible floods. Most scientists (11) (agree) that global temperatures (12) (already / rise). We must do everything we can to prevent global warming, and that includes preserving the rainforests!



TONY: Thank you, Leila, and good luck in your campaign.

LEILA: Thank you.

10

Tick (✓) the sentences which are correct. In some pairs, one sentence is correct. In other pairs, both sentences are correct.

- 1 What do you think of my hair? ✓
- 2 You look great today!
- 3 Do you enjoy your meal?
- 4 I think of selling my car.
- 5 Where do you live?
- 6 I don't believe his story.
- 7 The students seem tired today.
- 8 He weighs 80 kilos.
- 9 How often do you play tennis?
- 10 My brother looks for a new job.

What are you thinking of my hair?
You're looking great today!
Are you enjoying your meal?
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The students are seeming tired today.
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How often are you playing tennis?
My brother is looking for a new job.

4.1 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

- Are you hungry? Do you want (you / want) something to eat?
- Alan says he's 90 years old, but nobody (believe) him.
- She told me her name, but (I / not / remember) it now.
- Don't put the dictionary away. (I / use) it.
- Don't put the dictionary away. (I / need) it.
- Air (consist) mainly of nitrogen and oxygen.
- Who is that man? What (he / want)?
- Who is that man? Why (he / look) at us?
- Who is that man? (you / recognise) him?
- (I / think) of selling my car. Would you be interested in buying it?
- I can't make up my mind. What (you / think) I should do?
- Gary wasn't well earlier, but (he / seem) OK now.

4.2 Use the words in brackets to make sentences.

1 (you / not / seem / very happy today)
You don't seem very happy today.

2 Are you OK?
You look worried.
(I / think)

3 (who / this umbrella / belong to?)
I've no idea.

4 (this / smell / good)

5 Excuse me. (anybody / sit / there?)
No, it's free.

6 (these gloves / not / fit / me)
They're too small.

4.3 Are the underlined verbs OK? Correct them where necessary.

- Nicky is thinking of giving up her job.
- It's not true. I'm not believing it.
- I'm feeling hungry. Is there anything to eat?
- I've never eaten that fruit. What is it tasting like?
- I'm not sure what she does. I think she works in a shop.
- Look over there. What are you seeing?
- You're very quiet. What are you thinking about?

OK

I don't believe it.

4.4 Complete the sentences. Use **is/are being** (continuous) or **is/are** (simple).

- I can't understand why he's being so selfish. He isn't usually like that.
- You'll like Sophie when you meet her. She very nice.
- Sarah very nice to me at the moment. I wonder why.
- They very happy. They've just got married.
- You're normally very patient, so why so unreasonable about waiting ten more minutes?
- Would you like something to eat? hungry?

3.1 Are the underlined verbs OK? Correct them where necessary.

- 1 Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.
- 2 How often are you going to the cinema?
- 3 Ben tries to find a job, but he hasn't had any luck yet.
- 4 Martina is phoning her mother every day.
- 5 The moon goes round the earth in about 27 days.
- 6 Can you hear those people? What do they talk about?
- 7 What do you do in your spare time?
- 8 Sarah is a vegetarian. She doesn't eat meat.
- 9 I must go now. It gets late.
- 10 'Come on! It's time to leave.' 'OK, I come.'
- 11 Paul is never late. He's always starting work on time.
- 12 They don't get on well. They're always arguing.

OK
do you go

3.2 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

- 1 a I usually get (I / usually / get) hungry in the afternoon.
b I'm getting (I / get) hungry. Let's go and eat something.
- 2 a '..... (you / listen) to the radio?' 'No, you can turn it off.'
b '..... (you / listen) to the radio a lot?' 'No, not very often.'
- 3 a The River Nile (flow) into the Mediterranean.
b The river (flow) very fast today – much faster than usual.
- 4 a I'm not very active. (I / not / do) any sport.
b What (you / usually / do) at weekends?
- 5 a Rachel is in New York right now. (She / stay) at the Park Hotel.
b (She / always / stay) there when she's in New York.

3.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

- 1 Why are all these people here? What's happening (What / happen)?
- 2 Julia is good at languages. (She / speak) four languages very well.
- 3 Are you ready yet? (Everybody / wait) for you.
- 4 I've never heard this word. How (you / pronounce) it?
- 5 Kate (not / work) this week. She's on holiday.
- 6 I think my English (improve) slowly. It's better than it was.
- 7 Nicola (live) in Manchester. She has never lived anywhere else.
- 8 Can we stop walking soon? (I / start) to get tired.
- 9 Sam and Tina are in Madrid right now. (They / visit) a friend of theirs.
- 10 'What (your father / do)?' 'He's an architect.'
- 11 It took me an hour to get to work this morning. Most days (it / not / take) so long.
- 12 I (I / learn) to drive. My driving test is next month. My father (teach) me.

3.4 Finish B's sentences. Use **always -ing**.

- 1 A: I've lost my keys again.
B: Not again! You're always losing your keys
- 2 A: The car has broken down again.
B: That car is useless. It
- 3 A: Look! You've made the same mistake again.
B: Oh no, not again! I
- 4 A: Oh, I've left my phone at home again.
B: Typical!