



PRESENT SIMPLE vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

1. When do we use Present Simple & Present Continuous?

Classify the following sentences.

- ★ Things which are always true
- ★ Temporary situations
- ★ Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least)
- ★ Things which are happening at the moment of speaking
- ★ Habits or things we do regularly
- ★ Temporary or new habits

PRESENT SIMPLE	
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	

2. Read the following examples. Write PS (for Present Simple) or PC (for Present Continuous) next to each sentence.

- Water boils at 100 degrees. _____
- Julie is living in Paris for a few months. _____
- I drink tea every morning. _____
- I'm drinking too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work. _____
- Jack works in a bank. _____
- Mum is reading the newspaper right now. _____

3. Now put the examples above according to the use. Write the letter of the sentence.

- ✓ Things which are always true. For example: sentence a
- ✓ Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least).
For example: sentence
- ✓ Habits or things we do regularly. For example: sentence
- ✓ Things which are happening at the moment of speaking.
For example: sentence
- ✓ Temporary situations. For example: sentence
- ✓ Temporary or new habits. For example: sentence

4. What time expressions can we use for each tense? Put the following time expressions in the correct column.

every week – always – now – often – at the moment – never – this morning – every Sunday – today – usually – every day – these days

**PRESENT
SIMPLE**

**PRESENT
CONTINUOUS**

5. Present Simple or Continuous? Choose the correct option.

- a) She _____ (not eat) pizza very often.
- b) What computer game _____ (you / play) now?
- c) I _____ (not like) romantic movies. I think they're boring!
- d) They _____ (play) football in the park every weekend.
- e) Mark _____ (watch) TV at the moment.
- f) What time _____ (she / start) school every day?
- g) Mark _____ (not watch) TV, he's reading.
- h) Can you speak slowly, please? I _____ (not understand) you.
- i) My mum _____ (not usually listen) to classical music.
- j) We _____ (not go) to the park because it's raining.
- k) _____ (Dad / make) breakfast this morning?
- l) How often _____ (you / go) to the gym?
- m) He _____ (wash) his car every Saturday.
- n) 'Can I use your pencil?' No, sorry. I _____ (use) it right now.
- o) My cousin usually _____ (ride) his bike to school, but he _____ (go) by car today.
- p) She _____ (smoke) thirty cigarettes a day, but at the moment she _____ (try) to stop.
- q) My best friend _____ (not like) tea, but she _____ (drink) it today because she's ill.



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