


Source: Frenco, E. (2012). *English for Construction 2. Vocational English Course book* (p. 5). England: Pearson Education Limited.  
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	SIMPLE PRESENT	VS	PRESENT CONTINUOUS
USE	We use the <b>simple present</b> to talk about routines and things that are permanent or happen all the time.  <i>I <b>control</b> access to the site. She <b>works</b> for the cement supplier.</i>		We use the <b>present continuous</b> to talk about things that take place at the time of speaking, and are temporary (not permanent).  <i>We're <b>visiting</b> the site. He's <b>walking</b> through the gate.</i>
EXPRESSIONS	We use <b>adverbs of frequency</b> (e.g. <u>always</u> , <u>usually</u> , <u>often</u> , <u>sometimes</u> , <u>never</u> ) or <b>frequency expressions</b> (e.g. <u>every week</u> , <u>every day</u> , <u>once a week</u> , <u>three times a month</u> , etc.) with the simple present to describe how often somebody does something or how often something happens.  <i>We <b>usually</b> have about 100 people on site. Sometimes we work in a consortium.</i>		We use <b>time expressions</b> like <u>now</u> , <u>right now</u> , and <u>at the moment</u> , for actions in progress, and expressions like <u>today</u> , <u>this morning</u> , <u>this week</u> , <u>this month</u> , <u>this semester</u> , <u>this year</u> , <u>these days</u> , etc. for temporary actions. Also, expressions like "Look!" or "Listen!".  <i>I'm busy. I'm drawing a floor plan <b>right now</b>. We're working for another firm <b>this month</b>.</i>

**ACTIVITY.** Martin is giving information about people's roles on site. Write the correct verb forms to complete the text using SIMPLE PRESENT or PRESENT CONTINUOUS.



We \_\_\_\_\_ (1. *have*) around 100 people on site every day. Today, most people \_\_\_\_\_ (2. *work*) on the basic structure of the building. The people in green jackets over there are concrete finishers from DKI Cement, the cement supplier. On this project, they \_\_\_\_\_ (3. *supervise*) the unskilled laborers, who are all local people. Of course, there are always a lot of heavy equipment operators. They \_\_\_\_\_ (4. *handle*) the cranes, the cement mixers, the cement pumps, and so on. The drivers \_\_\_\_\_ (5. *bring*) in fresh loads of cement several times a day. Over there, a couple of painters \_\_\_\_\_ (6. *paint*) the staircase and walls, and the electricians \_\_\_\_\_ (7. *repair*) one of the generators.

