

I am doing (present continuous) and
I do (present simple)

A

Jack is watching television.
He is *not* playing the guitar.
But Jack has a guitar.
He often plays it and he plays very well.
Jack **plays** the guitar,
but he **is not playing** the guitar now.



Is he playing the guitar? **No, he isn't.** (present continuous)
Does he play the guitar? **Yes, he does.** (present simple)

B

Present continuous (I am doing) = now, at the time of speaking:

I'm doing

| past | now | future |
|------|-----|--------|
| | | |

Please be quiet. I'm **working**. (not I work)
 Tom **is having** a shower at the moment. (not Tom has)
 Take an umbrella with you. It's **raining**.
 You can turn off the television. I'm **not watching** it.
 Why are you under the table? What **are** you doing?

C

Present simple (I do) = in general, all the time or sometimes:

I do

| past | now | future |
|------|-----|--------|
| | | |

I **work** every day from 9 o'clock to 5.30.
 Tom **has** a shower every morning.
 It **rains** a lot in winter.
 I **don't watch** TV very often.
 What **do** you usually **do** at weekends?

D

We do *not* use these verbs in the present continuous (I am -ing):

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------------|----------|
| like | want | know | understand | remember |
| prefer | need | mean | believe | forget |

Use only the present simple with these verbs (I **want** / **do you like**? etc.):

I'm tired. I **want** to go home. (not I'm wanting)
 'Do you **know** that girl?' 'Yes, but I **don't remember** her name.'
 I **don't understand**. What **do** you **mean**?

Exercises

8.1 Answer the questions about the pictures.



Does he take photographs? **Yes, he does.**
 Is he taking a photograph? **No, he isn't.**
 What is he doing?
He's having a bath.



Is she driving a bus?
 Does she drive a bus?
 What is she doing?



Does he clean windows?
 Is he cleaning a window?
 What is he doing?



Are they teaching?
 Do they teach?
 What do they do?

8.2 Complete the sentences with **am/is/are** or **do/don't/does/doesn't**.

- 1 Excuse me, do you speak English?
- 2 'Where's Kate?' 'I know.'
- 3 What's funny? Why you laughing?
- 4 'What your sister do?' 'She's a dentist.'
- 5 It raining. I want to go out in the rain.
- 6 'Where you come from?' 'Canada.'
- 7 How much it cost to stay at this hotel? Is it expensive?
- 8 Steve is a good tennis player, but he play very often.

8.3 Put the verb in the present continuous (**I am doing**) or the present simple (**I do**).

- 1 Excuse me, do you speak (you/speak) English?
- 2 'Where's Tom?' ' He's having (he/have) a shower.'
- 3 I don't watch (I/not/watch) TV very often.
- 4 Listen! Somebody (sing).
- 5 Sarah is tired. (she/want) to go home now.
- 6 How often (you/use) your car? Every day?
- 7 'Excuse me, but (you/sit) in my seat.' 'Oh, I'm sorry.'
- 8 I'm sorry. (I/not/understand). Can you speak more slowly?
- 9 It's late. (I/go) home now.
- 10 What time (your father / finish) work every day?
- 11 You can turn off the radio. (I/not/listen) to it.
- 12 'Where's Paul?' 'In the kitchen.' (he/cook) something'
- 13 Mark (not/usually/drive) to work. He (usually/walk).
- 14 Sue (not/like) coffee. (she/prefer) tea.