

5C present simple or present continuous?

present simple

It always **snows** here in winter.
What **do you** usually **do** at work?
My sister **works** in a bank.

present continuous

Look! It's **snowing**.
What **are you** **doing** now?
Today she's **working** at home.

5.20

What do you do? or What are you doing?

- A **What do you do?** (= What's your job?)
- B **I'm a teacher.**
- A **What are you doing?** (= now, at the moment)
- B **I'm waiting for a friend.**

- We use the **present simple** to say what we usually do, or things that are normally true.
- We often use the **present simple** with adverbs and expressions of frequency, e.g. *always, often, once a week, etc.*
- We use the **present continuous** to say what is happening now or around now.
- We often use the **present continuous** with *at the moment, today, this week.*

5C

a Circle the correct form.

A What do you cook / are you cooking? I'm really hungry.
B Spaghetti. We can eat in ten minutes.

1 A Hello. Is Martin at home?
B No, he isn't. He plays / He's playing football with his friends.

2 A Do your parents live / Are your parents living near here?
B Yes. They have / are having a flat in the same building as me.

3 A How often do you go / are you going to the hairdresser's?
B About once a month. When my hair needs / is needing a cut.

4 A Don't make a noise! Your father sleeps / is sleeping!
B Is he OK? He doesn't usually sleep / isn't usually sleeping in the afternoon.

b Put the verbs in the present simple or continuous.

Look. It's raining... (rain)

1 A Hi, Sarah! What are you doing here? (do)
B I am waiting for a friend. (wait)

2 A Let's have lunch. Do you like hamburgers? (like)
B No, sorry. I'm a vegetarian. I eat meat. (not eat)

3 A Listen! The neighbours are having a party again. (have)
B They have a party every weekend!

4 A What does your boyfriend do? (do)
B He's a teacher. He teaches at the local school. (work)

5C GRAMMAR present simple or present continuous?

Put the verbs in the present simple or present continuous. Use contractions where possible.

1 A What ^{are} you doing? (do)
B I'm checking my emails. (check)

2 A What ¹ are you thinking of your new phone? (think)
B It's great! It ² is taking really good photos. (take)

3 A What's that music?
B My neighbours ³ are having a party. (have)

4 A Where ⁴ are you going? (go)
B To my parents' house for lunch. We usually ⁵ go there for lunch on Sundays. (go)

5 A Hi, Nora! What ⁶ are you doing here? (do)
B I ⁷ am waiting for a friend. (wait)

6 A Where's Simon?
B In the bathroom. He ⁸ is having a shower. (have)

7 A What's the answer to number five?
B Sh! I ⁹ am listening to the teacher. (listen)

8 A ¹⁰ Are you wearing a uniform for work? (wear)
B Yes. I ¹¹ like it. It's horrible. (not like)

9 A Look! It ¹² is raining. (rain)
B Again? It ¹³ rains a lot here. (rain)

10 A Why ¹⁴ are you crying? (cry)
B Because I ¹⁵ am watching a very sad film. (watch)

11 A Why ¹⁶ is the train stop? (stop)
B Because this is the slow train. It ¹⁷ stops at every station. (stop)

12 A When ¹⁸ do you usually see your friends? (see)
B On Friday night. We always ¹⁹ meet after work. (meet)

13 A What time ²⁰ do you usually finish work? (finish)
B About 6.00, but I ²¹ work late this evening. (work)

14 A What ²² are you looking for? (look)
B My car keys! I always ²³ put them in my bag, but they aren't there now. (put)

15 A How often ²⁴ do you exercise? (do)
B I ²⁵ swim in the sea every morning. (swim)

16 A Be quiet! Your mum ²⁶ is trying to watch a film on TV. (try)
B Sorry! She hardly ever ²⁷ watches TV in the afternoon. (watch)

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21–27 Excellent. You understand the difference between the present continuous and the present simple.

15–20 Quite good, but check the rules in the Grammar Bank (Student's Book p.132) and look at the exercise again.

0–14 This is difficult for you. Read the rules in the Grammar Bank (Student's Book p.132). Then ask your teacher for another photocopy and do the exercise again at home.

ACTIVATION

Work with a partner. Talk about two things you do every day, and two things you're doing at the moment.