

PRESENT SIMPLE OR CONTINUOUS

1 Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the girl's job?
- 2 What are the hotel staff doing today?

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Every summer I work as a receptionist in the local hotel. I like it. It's usually quiet and I don't have a lot of work. When guests **arrive**, I **give** them their keys. At 11.00, I always **have** coffee and a cake.

But this summer everything's different. Our town **is organising** an arts festival. 100 people are staying at the hotel. Today we're preparing for a big party! At the moment, the waiters **are bringing** more tables and the manager **is telling** me to do three different jobs. I hate it when it is like this! No coffee for me today!

2 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. Then complete the examples with the words in blue in the text.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Present Simple and Present Continuous

You use the **Present Simple** to talk about facts, habits and routines.

When guests ¹**arrive**, I ²**give** them their keys.

At 11.00, I always ³**have** coffee and a cake.

Time expressions: **always**, **usually**, **every day/morning/summer**, **on Saturdays**, etc.

You use the **Present Continuous**:

• to talk about activities at the moment of speaking.

The waiters ⁴**are bringing** more tables. The manager

⁵**is telling** me to do three different jobs.

• to talk about temporary actions.

Our town ⁶**is organising** an arts festival. (this summer)

Time expressions: **at the moment**, **now**, **right now**, **today**, **this month**, **this summer**, etc.

REMEMBER THIS

We don't use these verbs in the Present Continuous:

believe, **hate**, **know**, **like**, **love**, **mean**, **need**, **prefer**, **understand**, **want**.

3 Complete the sentences with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I **work** (work) as a mechanic for SuperCars.
- 2 Jane **work** (work) as a waitress in a café this summer.
- 3 Please don't talk to me now. I **finish** (finish) an email.
- 4 I **finish** (finish) work at five.
- 5 We **go** (go) to the cinema on Saturdays, but today we **go** (go) to the theatre.

4 Complete Emily's email with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Freddie,

Guess where I am. At the moment, I ¹**m looking** (look) at the Atlantic!

I've got a holiday job as an au pair with a Spanish family. They're on holiday in Vigo just now and I ²**look** (look) after the children.

I usually ³**play** (play) with the kids, but at the moment they ⁴**sleep** (sleep). It's their siesta. I usually ⁵**relax** (relax) too, but today I ⁶**write** (write) to you.

My 'working' day ⁷**start** (start) early; I ⁸**take** (take) the children for a swim. They ⁹**love** (love) the water! After dinner, I ¹⁰**read** (read) stories to them. It's so quiet now. The sun ¹¹**shine** (shine) and life ¹²**be** (be) perfect! I ¹³**believe** (believe) I've got the best job in the world!

What about you? How's your holiday job going?

Love,

Emily

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of **be** or **do**. Use short forms if possible.

- 0 I **don't** (not) like my job. I work at night and I can never sleep during the day.
- 1 **Are** you working at the moment? If not, can you help me in the kitchen?
- 2 Where **is** your mum **teach**? Are you happy she **doesn't** **teach** in our school?
- 3 Mr Brown **not** **work** here. He **works** in our office in London.
- 4 Do you **work** every weekend? Yes, I **but** only on Saturdays.
- 5 What **is** your brother **doing** at the moment?
- 6 What **do** you **want** to do when you finish university?
- 7 Are you **phoning** the plumber? Yes, I **but** I can't stop this water.

2 ★ Complete the sentences with the verbs in capitals in the correct forms. Use short forms if possible.

0 **PLAY**

Dan usually plays tennis on a Saturday but today he's playing golf.

1 **MEET**

We usually ^a _____ outside the cinema but it's raining so we ^b _____ in a cafe.

2 **HAVE**

My mum ^a _____ a bath at the moment. She usually ^b _____ a shower but she wants to relax today.

3 **DO**

It's seven o'clock in the morning and my brother ^a _____ his homework. I always ^b _____ my homework in the evening.

4 **HAVE**

We usually ^a _____ Maths on Friday afternoon but our teacher is ill so, today, we ^b _____ an extra English lesson.

5 **SEND**

My friends usually ^a _____ me texts but my phone isn't working so they ^b _____ me emails at the moment.

LET'S LISTEN!

3 GRAMMAR present simple or present continuous?

a 3 11) Jack and his Swedish girlfriend Ingrid are on the London Eye. Cover the conversation and listen. Tick (✓) the places they see.

<input type="checkbox"/> Trafalgar Square	<input type="checkbox"/> St Paul's Cathedral
<input type="checkbox"/> Buckingham Palace	<input type="checkbox"/> Westminster Abbey
<input type="checkbox"/> The Houses of Parliament	<input type="checkbox"/> Big Ben

b Listen to the conversation again, and put the verbs in brackets into the present continuous or the present simple.

I Come on, let's stand over there.
J It's moving. (move). We _____ (go) up. Look, that's St Paul's Cathedral.
I Where? Oh yes, I can see it. Is that Buckingham Palace?
J Yes, and the Queen's at home.
I How do you know?
J Because the flag _____ (fly). It only _____ (fly) when she's at home.

I I think it _____ (start) to rain. Oh, yes look, it _____ (rain).
J It always _____ (rain) when we're sightseeing!
I We _____ (go) down now. I _____ (love) the view of the river with Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament.
J Me too. Go and stand there. I _____ (want) to take a photo.

I Quick, the door _____ (open). Let's go.