

Present simple vs. continuous

a Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous.

The girl in the painting is playing the guitar. (play)

1 My dog's not dangerous. He _____ . (not bite)

2 Why _____ you _____ sunglasses? It _____ ! (wear, rain)

3 You can turn off the radio. I _____ to it. (not listen)

4 I _____ to find a cash machine. (need)

5 Be careful! The baby _____ your pen in her mouth! (put)

6 A _____ you usually _____ at weekends? (cook)
B No, we normally _____ out. (eat)

7 A What _____ you _____ here? (do)
B I _____ for Emma. She's late, as usual. (wait)

8 I usually _____ tea, but
I _____ a coffee today. (drink, want)

9 She's an administrator. She _____ from 9.00 to 5.00. (work)

10 Marc _____ in Paris, but
he _____ in Nice at the moment. (live, work)

b Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous form of a verb from the list. Use contractions where possible.

drink drive like live
rain sleep study wear

- 1 We like this painting very much – it's really interesting.
- 2 Charles always goes to work.
- 3 Shhhh! The children are sleeping.
- 4 We can't play tennis today.
It isn't nice.
- 5 Fiona drinks four cups of coffee every day.
- 6 Kathy always wears jeans at home.
- 7 They can't come to the theatre because they are studying for the exam tomorrow.
- 8 My parents live in a big house in the country.

The Remake Project

The **REMAKE PROJECT** was the idea of Canadian artist Jeff Hamada. He asked readers of his website to remake a famous work of art as a photo. Hundreds of people sent photos to the project and the photos appeared in blogs, in newspapers, and in a book.



c You're going to listen to an art expert talking about Vermeer and *The Milkmaid*. Look at the painting again. Try to answer the questions.



1 What century did Vermeer live in?
a 15th b 17th c 19th

2 Where was he from?
a Holland b Germany c Russia

3 What kind of things did he usually paint?
a everyday scenes b portraits of rich people c trees and flowers

4 What is the milkmaid probably making?
a butter b bread c a pudding

5 How many of Vermeer's paintings exist today?
a 4 b 34 c 304

6 Why was the painting expensive to make?
a Because it's very big.
b Because some of the paints were very expensive.
c Because he rented an expensive studio.



Official Website



Detail of the painting
The Procuress (c.1656),
believed to be a self
portrait by Vermeer

Vincent van Gogh



Describing a picture (a painting or photo)

When we describe a picture, we normally use *There is / There are* to say what's in the picture, and we use the present continuous to say what the people are doing, e.g. *There's a table with some bread on it. The woman is standing next to the table.*

"A man paints with his brain, and not with his hands."



Michelangelo, Italian painter and sculptor

d Now look at the photo again. Complete the sentences with a word or phrase from the list.

above behind between in in front of in the corner
in the middle of next to on (x2) on the left of under

- 1 The young man is in the kitchen.
- 2 There's a table next to him.
- 3 Between the table there are some eggs, some bread, and some strawberries.
- 4 The bread is on the table. It's between the eggs and the strawberries.
- 5 There's a board under the bread.
- 6 Behind the man, there's an old washing machine.
- 7 There's a window in the photo.
- 8 On the floor of the room there's a sink and some cleaning products.
- 9 There's a flower on the wall next to the sink.
- 10 The sink is under the window.



e Look at the photo, a remake of van Gogh's painting *The bedroom*. Complete the sentences with a preposition from the list.

above behind between in front of
next to on on the left under

- 1 There's a painting of a man on the left of the painting of the woman.
- 2 There are some clothes on the bed.
- 3 There's a chair between the bed and the table.
- 4 There's a small cup between the two jugs on the table.
- 5 The two pillows on the bed are under each other.
- 6 There's a mirror above the table.
- 7 The chair by the bed is next to the window.

f On our Google Classroom, you will find some famous paintings. Choose one to make your own "Remake Project". Once you take the photo upload it on our "tablón" with, at least, ten sentences describing your picture using present continuous and prepositions of place.



Google Classroom