

# Present Forms

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Listen and repeat. Then act out.



| Present Simple  | Present Continuous   | Present Perfect   | Present Perfect Continuous  |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>permanent situations or states</b><br><i>She <b>works</b> as a nurse.</i><br><i>She <b>owns</b> a large shop.</i>                          | <b>temporary situations</b><br><i>They're <b>staying</b> at the Park Hotel at present.</i>                             | <b>recently completed actions</b><br><i>She <b>has tidied</b> her room.</i><br>(She has finished tidying her room. You can see it is tidy now – evidence in the present.)   | <b>actions started in the past and continuing up to the present</b><br><i>He's <b>been writing</b> a letter for two hours.</i> (He started two hours ago and he's still writing.) |
| <b>repeated / habitual actions (especially with frequency adverbs: often, usually, etc.)</b><br><i>I <b>usually get up</b> at 7:30 am.</i>    | <b>actions happening at or around the moment of speaking</b><br><i>She <b>is looking</b> for a better job.</i>         | <b>actions which happened at an unstated time in the past and are connected with the present</b><br><i>He <b>has lost</b> his keys.</i> (He is still looking for them.)   | <b>past actions of certain duration having visible results or effects in the present</b><br><i>She's <b>been crying</b>.</i> (Her eyes are red.)                                  |
| <b>permanent truths or laws of nature</b><br><i>Money <b>doesn't buy</b> happiness.</i><br><i>Water <b>freezes</b> at 0°C.</i>                | <b>repeated actions with 'always' expressing annoyance or criticism</b><br><i>She's <b>always interrupting</b> me!</i> | <b>personal experiences / change that has happened over a period of time</b><br><i>I've <b>lost</b> weight.</i>   | <b>actions expressing anger, irritation, annoyance, explanation or criticism</b><br><i>Who <b>has been using</b> my hairbrush?</i> (annoyance)                                    |
| <b>timetables / programmes (future meaning)</b><br><i>The match <b>finishes</b> at 7:45 pm.</i><br><i>The plane <b>leaves</b> at 6:05 am.</i> | <b>fixed arrangements in the near future</b><br><i>The Browns <b>are visiting</b> us tonight.</i> (It's all arranged.) | <b>emphasis on number</b><br><i>She's <b>written three</b> letters since this morning.</i><br><i>She <b>has spoken to two</b> clients since 12 o'clock.</i>   | <b>emphasis on duration (usually with for, since or how long)</b><br><i>They <b>have been speaking</b> in his office for the last hour.</i>                                       |
| <b>reviews / sports commentaries / dramatic narratives</b><br><i>Angelina Jolie <b>acts</b> brilliantly in this film.</i>                     | <b>changing or developing situations</b><br><i>His English <b>is getting</b> better.</i>                               | <b>Note: live, feel and work can be used either in the present perfect or the present perfect continuous with no difference in meaning.</b><br><i>I've <b>been living</b> / I've <b>lived</b> in Rome for a year.</i> |   |

## 1

## Present Forms

| Time expressions used with:       |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Present Simple</b>             | every day / week / month / year, usually, often, always, rarely, never, sometimes, in the morning / evening / afternoon, at night, on Mondays, etc.   |
| <b>Present Continuous</b>         | now, at the moment, at present, nowadays, today, tonight, always, still, etc.   |
| <b>Present Perfect</b>            | just, ever, never, already, yet (negations & questions), always, how long, so far, recently, since (= from a starting point in the past), for (= over a period of time), today, this week / month, etc. |
| <b>Present Perfect Continuous</b> | how long, for, since  |

- 1 Write the 3rd person singular of the verbs and put them into the correct column. Then read them out.

|       |      |                            |      |     |               |        |                      |       |       |
|-------|------|----------------------------|------|-----|---------------|--------|----------------------|-------|-------|
| get   | play | buy                        | drop | say | write         | dry    | reach                | smash | drive |
| watch | fly  | go                         | kiss | cry | mix           | sneeze | pay                  | try   |       |
| + s   |      | -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, -o + es |      |     | vowel + y + s |        | consonant + y → -ies |       |       |
| gets, |      | watches,                   |      |     | plays,        |        | flies,               |       |       |

- 2 Add -ing to the following verbs and put them into the correct column. Then read them out.

|            |     |               |      |          |     |                        |     |
|------------|-----|---------------|------|----------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| listen     | use | bring         | tie  | hope     | die | come                   | put |
| lie        | rub | run           | dive | go       | cry | travel                 |     |
| + ing      |     | -ie → y + ing |      | -e → ing |     | double consonant + ing |     |
| listening, |     | lying,        |      | using,   |     | rubbing,               |     |

- 3 Write the past participle of the following verbs.

|                        |                |               |               |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 break ... broken ... | 3 swim .....   | 5 bring ..... | 7 write ..... |
| 2 meet .....           | 4 finish ..... | 6 send .....  | 8 read .....  |

- 4 Match the sentences (1–10) to the correct description (a–j).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 He drinks a litre of milk every day.                   | a emphasis on duration  |
| 2 Milk contains a lot of vitamins.                       | b temporary situation   |
| 3 He is getting stronger.                                | c repeated action expressing annoyance                                  |
| 4 She has just passed her exams.                         | d emphasis on number  |
| 5 She is having a party at the moment.                   | e habitual action   |
| 6 He has been working all day.                           | f recently completed action   |
| 7 She has phoned him three times this morning.           | g permanent truth   |
| 8 He is always borrowing money from me.                  | h changing or developing situation                                      |
| 9 Her feet are aching. She has been walking all morning. | i fixed arrangement in the near future                                  |
| 10 They are getting married next week.                   | j past action of certain duration having visible results in the present |



|               |         |         |         |          |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1 .....e..... | 3 ..... | 5 ..... | 7 ..... | 9 .....  |
| 2 .....       | 4 ..... | 6 ..... | 8 ..... | 10 ..... |

- 5 Complete the advertisement with the verbs in brackets. Use the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

## Adopt an Animal

# TODAY

The Animal Adoption Society 1) needs **(need)** your help! At the moment, we 2) ..... **(have)** more than 20 dogs and 35 cats that desperately need a home. We 3) ..... **(look)** for people who 4) ..... **(love)** animals and who 5) ..... **(take)** good care of pets. 6) ..... **(you/want)** to adopt one of our adorable animals? We 7) ..... **(have)** an open day this weekend. Please come! Adoption 8) ..... **(be)** completely free!

- 6 Fill in with the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

Claire: Hi, Mum. It's me!

Mum: Claire! What a lovely surprise! 1) ... Are you calling ... **(you/call)** from work?

Claire: Yes. I 2) ..... **(be)** on my lunch break at the moment.

Mum: Is everything all right? You 3) ..... **(usually/not call)** me from work.

Claire: Everything's fine! I just want you to know that Sarah and I 4) ..... **(come)** home this weekend. I 5) ..... **(book)** our train tickets online right now.

Mum: Wonderful!

Claire: Our train 6) ..... **(leave)** London at 5:15 pm and 7) ..... **(arrive)** in Liverpool at 7:45 pm.

Mum: Great. See you soon then!

## Adverbs of Frequency

- Adverbs of frequency tell us **how often** something happens.
- Adverbs of frequency (**always, usually, often, sometimes, seldom/rarely, never**, etc.) come before the main verb (**read, work**, etc.) but after the verb **to be**, auxiliary verbs (**do, have**, etc.) or modal verbs (**can, should**, etc.). However, adverbs of frequency go before auxiliary verbs in short answers.

Tina **often goes** skiing at the weekend.  
Ben **is sometimes** rude to other people.  
You **can always** call me if you need help.

"Do you help your mum with the housework?"  
"Yes, I **usually do**."

- The adverbs **never, seldom** and **rarely** have a negative meaning and are never used with the word **not**. I **rarely** go to bed late. (NOT: ~~I rarely don't go~~ ...)

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## Present Forms

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Read about Layla's daily routine and make sentences as in the example. Use adverbs of frequency (*always, often, sometimes, rarely, never*).



### Layla's Daily Routine

- go to school by bike Monday to Thursday, walk to school on Friday
- wear casual clothes at school
- do homework every afternoon
- go swimming after school Monday to Thursday
- walk the dog after dinner Monday to Wednesday

- 1 Layla .... *rarely walks* .... to school.
- 2 She ..... a uniform at school.
- 3 She ..... her homework in the afternoon.
- 4 She ..... swimming after school.
- 5 She ..... after dinner.

## 8

Form questions then answer them.

- 1 you / always / go to the cinema on Saturdays?  
.. *Do you always go to the cinema on Saturdays? Yes, I do. / No, I don't.* .....
- 2 your family / often / eat out?  
.....
- 3 you / usually / have dinner at 8:00 pm?  
.....
- 4 you / often / hang out with your friends?  
.....
- 5 your dad / usually / wash the dishes?  
.....

### Stative Verbs

Verbs describing a permanent state (stative verbs) do not normally have continuous forms. These are:

- **verbs of the senses:** see, hear, smell, feel, taste, etc. (We often use *can* or *could* with these verbs.) *Can you see that tall boy over there?*

However, the verbs *look*, *watch* and *listen* express deliberate actions and can be used in continuous forms. *Be quiet please! I'm listening to the news. BUT I can't hear you. Can you speak louder, please?*

**Note:** The verbs *feel* and *hurt* can be used in either continuous or simple forms.

A: *How are you feeling today? / How do you feel today?*

B: *My leg is hurting. / My leg hurts.*

- **verbs of opinion:** agree, believe, consider, etc. *I believe he's telling the truth.*
- **verbs of emotion:** feel, forgive, hate, like, love, etc. *Harry likes rock music.*
- **other verbs:** appear (= seem), be, belong, fit (= be the right shape and size for sth), have (= possess), know, look (= appear), need, prefer, require, want, weigh, wish, etc. *He knows where Peter is. (NOT: ~~is knowing~~)*