## I Present Simple and Present Continuous

| Present Simple | Present Continuous |
|---|---|
| Things which are always true<br>* Water **freezes** at 0 degrees. | Things happening at the moment of speaking<br>* I **am making** tea now. |
| Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least)<br>* Rima **lives** in Skudai. | Temporary situations<br>* Rima **is living** in Skudai for a few months. (usually she lives in Seremban). |
| Habits or things we do regularly<br>* I **drink** tea every morning. | • Temporary or new habits<br>* I'**m drinking** a lot of green tea these days.<br>• Annoying habits (usually with *always*).<br>* My neighbours **are** always **throwing** rubbish into my garden! |
| • Future events which are part of a timetable<br>* My bus **leaves** at 2 p.m. today.<br>• To talk about the future after certain words (*when, until, after, before, as soon as, etc.*)<br>* I'll call you when I **leave** the office. | Definite future plans<br>* I **am meeting** Jack after class today. |
| To talk about what happens in books, plays and films<br>* At the end of the film, the police **apprehends** the killer. | To talk about people in pictures and photos<br>* In this photo, my brother **is swimming** in the river. |

**A** Complete the given sentences using the appropriate Present Tense.

1 Look! He _____ (*leave*) the house through the back.

2 Quiet please! I _____ (*write*) a test and need to concentrate.

3 She usually _____ (*walk*) to school, but today she _____ (*cycle*).

4 _____ you _____ (*reside*) at Lemon Garden even now?

5 Every Sunday, we _____ (*go*) to see my grandparents, who live in Kuala Pilah.

6 He often _____ (*drive*) to the mall to see a film.

7 We _____ (*play*) Monopoly with our cousins at the moment.

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8 The child seldom _____ (*cry*); her mother _____ (*carry*) her around the garden every morning.

9 I _____ (*not/ do*) anything at the moment, so please _____ (*come*) over.

10 _____ he _____ (*watch*) the news regularly?

11 _____ you _____ (*live*) in Shah Alam? My cousin _____ (*live*) there too.

12 Martin _____ (*do*) what he _____ (*want*). No one _____ (*tell*) him what to do.

## II Stative Verbs

* **Action verbs** (verbs describing action) can have both continuous and simple forms.
* **Stative verbs** (verbs describing a state of being), on the other hand, are **not** normally used in the continuous form.
* We use the present simple with stative verbs. Some examples of stative verbs are *see, appear, want, taste, think, own*, etc. They are words of perception, emotion, thinking, possession and feeling, which cannot take the continuous form, as in:
  - He **thinks** that Rachel should have stayed home. (✓)
  - He **is thinking** that Rachel should have stayed home. (✗)

**B** Complete the given sentences using the appropriate Present Tense.

1 We _____ (*know*) John from childhood; he is my son's best friend.

2 Beatrice can't come to the door right now – she _____ (*have*) a shower.

3 My holiday is next week. I _____ (*imagine*) myself on the beach right now!

4 David _____ (*own*) three motorbikes and two cars.

5 Adam _____ (*want*) to be a policeman; it is his childhood dream.

6 I _____ (*try*) to get my husband to fix that broken door handle.

7 Hannah _____ (*work*) very hard – I'm not surprised she has been promoted.

8 Our son is 11 years old and he _____ (*not/ believe*) in Santa Claus now.

9 Give me a moment, please. I _____ (*think*) about what to do.

10 I _____ (*think*) anyone who smokes cigarettes is crazy.

11 Xavier _____ (*seem*) happy at the moment.

12 I don't know, but I _____ (*doubt*) he will win the election.

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