

CAMBRIDGE GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY FOR FCE

UNIT 1A: PRESENT SIMPLE VS CONTINUOUS

Read the theory and solve the activities.

1 Choose the correct answer.

- 0 We rarely see / 're rarely seeing each other now.
- 1 I sleep / 'm sleeping on Nick's sofa until I find a place of my own.
- 2 I only work / 'm only working there for a couple of months – I'm going abroad in the summer.
- 3 If you don't listen / aren't listening to the radio, why don't you switch it off?
- 4 His only bad habit is that he talks / is talking too loudly.
- 5 So, in the first scene, we see / are seeing him getting up. Then he goes out / is going out and meets / is meeting a strange woman.
- 6 You make / are making goulash with meat, vegetables and paprika.
- 7 I never do anything I feel / 'm feeling is against my principles.
- 8 He appears / 's appearing to be very friendly but I don't know him very well.
- 9 There's nobody at the door. You just hear / 're just hearing things.
- 10 So, what do you think / are you thinking? Is it a good idea?

2 Complete the sentences. Use the present simple or present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 Diane's father owns. (own) that restaurant over there.
- 1 My sister (wait) patiently for her exam results.
- 2 We (not travel) by train very often.
- 3 I (consider) accepting that job offer in Cambridge.
- 4 The film (end) with a dramatic car chase.
- 5 I'm sorry, I (feel) too tired to go out this evening.
- 6 We (have) a great time here in London.
- 7 (you / see) much of your brother these days?
- 8 We (rely on) you to bring the keys with you.
- 9 I'm really sorry; I (wish) I could help you.
- 10 Who (you / think) you are, speaking to me like that!

3 Complete the sentences. Use the present simple or present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 We always visit (visit / always) my grandparents at weekends but Aunt Roberta never comes. (come / never) with us.
- 1 I (use / never) my mobile phone if I (drive).
- 2 I (get) lots of emails every day but I (seem / never) to have the time to reply!
- 3 The heroine (prefer) to be with Paul because James (argue / always).
- 4 Maria (forget / always) what time the soap (start).
- 5 You (moan / always) about the state of the flat but you (help / never) me tidy it up!
- 6 She (criticise / always) people! That's why she (not have) any friends!
- 7 Whether he (go out) or not (depend / always) on how busy he is.
- 8 I (shop / never) here – they (be / always) so rude!
- 9 We (smell / always) food cooking when we (pass) her house.
- 10 He (borrow / always) money! And he (pay / never) me back!

4 Complete the email. Use the present simple or present continuous of the verbs in the box.

cost depend go have look love make stay still / study taste write

Hi Rosa,

I ⁽¹⁾ ~~am writing~~ to you from an Internet café in the city centre. I ⁽¹⁾ in a cheap hotel near Plaza Catalunya. It ⁽²⁾ just forty euros a night – not bad!

Barcelona is a really exciting city and I ⁽³⁾ a wonderful time! This morning I visited the Sagrada Familia – a famous Catholic church in Barcelona. It's really weird – it ⁽⁴⁾ like a wedding cake! Later today I might go to the beach – it ⁽⁵⁾ on the weather.

The food's great. Crema Catalana is my favourite – I just ⁽⁶⁾ it! It's a dessert they ⁽⁷⁾ here with cold custard and sugar on top. It ⁽⁸⁾ absolutely delicious!

So, everything ⁽⁹⁾ well here. What about you? Is everything OK back in rainy Milan? ⁽¹⁰⁾ (you) for your exam next week?

See you soon!

Paola

5 Find and correct the mistakes in the sentences.

0 It's usually getting very cold here in the winter.

~~It usually gets very cold here in the winter.~~

1 This week, the government holds a conference on nuclear energy.

2 Water is consisting of hydrogen and oxygen.

3 Things are get more and more expensive all the time. It really makes me angry!

4 I've got nowhere to live, so I stay with a friend for now.

5 Is this car belonging to you, sir?

6 You always moaning! Stop it!

7 In the novel, the story is taking place in Florence.