

PRESENT SIMPLE VS CONTINUOUS – MEANING

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PRESENT SIMPLE	PRESENT CONTINUOUS
Habits. Regular actions or situations ➔ I wash my hair every day. ➔ He usually gets up very early. Facts, permanent situations or states ➔ I have one brother. He lives in Paris. ➔ Water boils at 100 degrees. With stative verbs* ➔ Give me the money. I need it now. ➔ What happened? You look sad. Future timetabled events ➔ The train leaves at 4. ➔ The exams start next Monday. SIGNAL WORDS: Always, never, often, sometimes, every day, once a month, etc.	Actions in progress 'now'/'around now' ➔ I can't talk. I'm brushing my teeth. ➔ I'm reading a new book. I love it! Temporary actions or situations ➔ I'm going to work by bus this week. ➔ I'm living with my cousins until I find an apartment. Changing or developing situations ➔ The climate is changing very quickly. ➔ Your English is improving. Future actions that are decided ➔ I'm meeting John this evening. ➔ We are leaving tomorrow at 7 a.m. SIGNAL WORDS: Now, at the moment, these days, this week/month, etc.

*Verbs of the senses: hear, see, smell, look, seem, sound. Opinion: believe, consider, like, love, hate, prefer, think, etc. Possession: have, own, belong, etc. Also: agree, be, depend, need, mean, remember, realise, recognise, seem, want, etc.

t e s t - e n g l i s h . c o m

Choose the correct tense:

1. The influenza virus **mutates** / **is mutating** every year, making it difficult to predict.
2. This year, researchers **study** / **are studying** a particularly aggressive strain of the flu.
3. The flu season **starts** / **is starting** in the fall and typically **peaks** / **is peaking** in winter.
4. At the moment, scientists **look** / **are looking** at how influenza spreads through crowded areas.
5. Patients **experience** / **are experiencing** fever and body aches when infected with the flu.
6. Right now, many health organizations **implement** / **are implementing** flu prevention strategies.
7. The virus **evolves** / **is evolving** rapidly, which makes vaccine development challenging.
8. Doctors **recommend** / **are recommending** getting the flu vaccine each year.
9. Authorities **monitor** / **are monitoring** the flu outbreak closely this month.
10. The flu vaccine typically **provides** / **is providing** protection against multiple strains.