

Present Simple - Present Continuous

1 Identify the tenses in bold, then match them with the correct description.

A

- 1 I **am helping** Helen choose her wedding dress on Saturday.
- 2 **Do** bats **live** in caves?
- 3 Carl **is** always **interrupting** me.
- 4 She often **goes** to the gym on Fridays.
- 5 The evening performance **starts** at nine o'clock.
- 6 Bill and Rob **are repairing** the cottage roof at the moment.
- 7 The black car **stops** in front of the bank and three suspicious looking men **get out** of it.
- 8 The rate of unemployment **is decreasing** slowly.

B

- a timetable or programme
- b fixed arrangement in the near future
- c repeated or habitual action
- d general truth or law of nature
- e expressing annoyance about a frequently repeated action
- f action happening at or around the moment of speaking
- g changing or developing situation
- h sports commentary, review or narration

2 Underline the correct tense.

- 1 More and more people **move/are moving** to the countryside these days.
- 2 Sheila **works/is working** as a costume designer for the local theatre company.
- 3 **Computec holds/is holding** a five-day seminar on computers for all its employees next week.
- 4 Lauren **doesn't leave/isn't leaving** her house before 9 o'clock in the morning.
- 5 No wonder the phone bills are so high! You **always talk/are always talking** on the phone!
- 6 I **don't teach/am not teaching** in the evenings at present.
- 7 **Do amphibians live/Are amphibians living** both on land and in water?
- 8 I **never go/am never going** to that restaurant again! The food was horrible!
- 9 They **prefer/are preferring** to go on holiday in spring when the resorts are less crowded.
- 10 Chris and Helen **are having/have** a garden party on Sunday afternoon.

3 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.



- 1 A: So, how does the film end?
B: Well, in the end Willy **escapes (escape)** and **(swim)** out to sea. He **(meet)** the rest of his family and they **(swim)** away together.
- 2 A: Would you like to go to the cinema on Sunday?
B: I'm sorry. I **(visit)** my grandparents this weekend.
- 3 A: Hurry up! The train **(leave)** at 2:30.
B: I'll be ready in five minutes.
- 4 A: Pam **(always/complain)** about something.
B: Yes, it's annoying, isn't it?
- 5 A: More and more people **(recycle)** their rubbish.
B: That's good news.
- 6 A: Could you give me a lift tomorrow morning?
B: I'm sorry but I **(always/use)** public transport to get to work.
- 7 A: Can I speak to Mr Collins, please?
B: I'm afraid he's not available at the moment. He **(have)** a meeting with some clients.
- 8 A: What do you know about snakes?
B: I know that they are reptiles and they **(lay)** eggs.
- 9 A: I haven't seen Bob for ages. How is he?
B: Oh, he **(work)** for an advertising company now.
- 10 A: Are you busy? I need some help.
B: No, I **(not/do)** anything at the moment. I can help you.
- 11 A: Your hair **(look)** great today. Have you had it cut?
B: Yes, I had it cut.