

1B present simple and continuous

REFERENCE ◀ page 11

Present simple

+	I Ivan	live checks	in Greece. his messages every five minutes.
-	We Zahra	don't see doesn't like	my sister very often. big cities.
?	When do you. How often does it Do	get rain you	home? here? work together?

We use the present simple:

- for actions that are habits or routines.
I **wake up** at five o'clock every day.
- for things that are always or generally true.
Jonas **comes** from Germany.

We often use frequency adverbs with the present simple: *always, usually, often, sometimes, hardly ever, never*.

We **hardly ever** go to the cinema.

Present continuous

+	I Yuzuru They	'm 's 're	cooking at the moment. playing tennis right now. staying with us this week.
-	I Natasha We	'm not isn't aren't	working this month. feeling very well. doing anything right now.
?	What Why	are you is Emma Are you is Felipe	thinking about? laughing? listening? looking for a new flat?

For information about the spelling of the -ing form see page 99.

We use the present continuous:

- for an activity that is happening now or at the moment of speaking.
I'm **talking** to Leah. Can I call you back?
- for a temporary activity that is happening around now.
We're **studying** Indian art this month.

We often use these time phrases with the present continuous: *right now, now, at the moment, this week/month/year, these days*.

Right now we're looking for a new apartment.

I'm not doing very much sport **these days**.

State verbs

We don't usually use the present continuous with state verbs. State verbs describe feelings or states, not actions or activities. Some state verbs are: *cost, like, love, hate, want, understand, know, mean, need*.

I don't understand. NOT ~~I'm not understanding~~.

What does 'hide' mean? NOT ~~What is 'hide' meaning?~~

Notice

I think the film is great. = in my opinion (Use the present simple.)

I'm thinking about lunch. = now (Use the present continuous.)

I have a new car. = a possession (Use the present simple.)

I'm having a shower. = an action now (Use the present continuous.)

PRACTICE

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- Sam and Julie **learn / are learning** how to dance salsa.
- I **don't eat / 'm not eating** meat. I only eat vegetables.
- We **wait / 're waiting** for Ahmed. He's late!
- Charlotte **doesn't work / isn't working** this week. She's on holiday.
- I **leave / 'm leaving** the office now. See you soon.
- The supermarket **usually has / is usually having** a lot of fruit.
- I **develop / 'm developing** a new app.
- You should buy that coat. It **doesn't cost / isn't costing** very much.

2 Use the prompts in brackets to complete the questions. Use the present simple or the present continuous.

- It's very hot today. Why a scarf? (you / wear)
- What sort of coffee ? (Diego / want)
- any good books at the moment? (you / read)
- How to work usually? (Megan / get)
- Look out of the window. ? (it / snow)
- very big or very small? ('tiny' / mean)
- Which band the best? (Nathan / like)
- any children? (your sister / have)

3 Complete the conversations with the correct form of the verbs in the box. Use the present simple or the present continuous.

come do dry need
not go sit stay work

- A: Are you ready?
B: I my hair. Just a moment.
A: Hurry up!
B: OK, I now.
- A: What your son ?
B: He's an actor.
A: Really?
B: But at the moment, he as a chef.
- A: When are you going to move into your new flat?
B: We to wait for a week.
A: So where are you now?
B: We with Angela's parents.
- A: Hi, Mike. Where are you?
B: I in the airport. My plane is late.
A: Can I ask you a question?
B: Sure. I anywhere!