

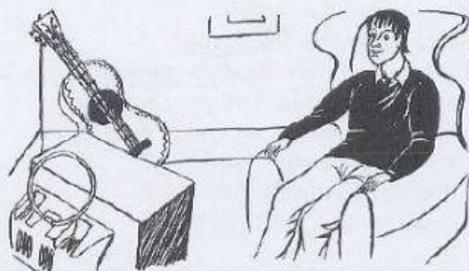
I am doing and I do (present continuous and present simple)

A

Jim is watching television.
He is *not* playing the guitar.

But Jim has a guitar.
He often plays it and he plays very well.

Jim **plays** the guitar
but he **is not playing** the guitar now.



Is he **playing** the guitar? **No, he isn't.** (*present continuous*)
Does he **play** the guitar? **Yes, he does.** (*present simple*)

B

Present continuous (I am doing) – now, at the time of speaking:

I'm doing

past ————— NOW ————— future

- Please be quiet. **I'm working.** (*not 'I work'*)
- Tom **is having** a shower at the moment. (*not 'Tom has'*)
- Take an umbrella with you. It's **raining.**
- You can turn off the television. **I'm not watching** it.
- Why are you under the table? What **are you doing?**

C

Present simple (I do) – in general, all the time or sometimes:

I do

past ————— NOW ————— future

- I **work** every day from 9 o'clock to 5.30.
- Tom **has** a shower every morning.
- It **rains** a lot in winter.
- I **don't watch** television very often.
- What **do** you usually **do** at the weekend?

D

We do *not* use these verbs in the present continuous (**I am -ing**):

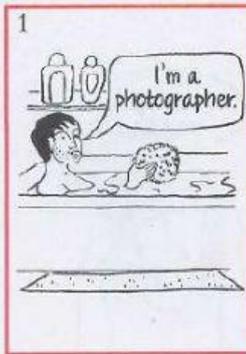
like	love	want	know	understand	remember	depend
prefer	hate	need	mean	believe	forget	

Use the present simple only with these verbs (**I want / do you like?** etc.):

- I'm tired. I **want** to go home. (*not 'I'm wanting'*)
- 'Do you **know** that girl?' 'Yes, but I **don't remember** her name.'
- I **don't understand**. What do you mean?

EXERCISES

8.1 Answer the questions about the pictures.



- 1 Does he take photographs? Yes, he does. Is he taking a photograph? No, he isn't.
 What is he doing? He's having a bath.
- 2 Is she driving a bus? Does she drive a bus?
 What is she doing?
- 3 Does he clean windows? Is he cleaning a window?
 What is he doing?
- 4 Are they teaching? Do they teach?
 What do they do?

8.2 Put in **am/is/are** or **do/don't/does/doesn't**.

- 1 Excuse me, do you speak English?
 2 'Where's Ann?' 'I know.'
 3 What's funny? Why you laughing?
 4 'What your sister do?' 'She's a dentist.'
 5 It raining. I want to go out in the rain.
 6 'Where you come from?' 'Canada.'
 7 How much it cost to phone Canada?
 8 George is a good tennis player but he play very often.

8.3 Put the verb in the present continuous (**I am doing**) or the present simple (**I do**).

- 1 Excuse me. Do you speak (you/speak) English?
 2 'Where's Tom?' 'He's having (he/have) a shower.'
 3 I don't watch (I/not/watch) television very often.
 4 Listen! Somebody (sing).
 5 Sandra is tired. (she/want) to go home now.
 6 How often (you/read) a newspaper?
 7 'Excuse me but (you/sit) in my place.' 'Oh, I'm sorry.'
 8 I'm sorry, (I/not/understand). Can you speak more slowly?
 9 It's late. (I/go) home now.
 (you/come) with me?
 10 What time (your father / finish) work in the evenings?
 11 You can turn off the radio. (I/not/listen) to it.
 12 'Where's Paul?' 'In the kitchen. (he/cook) something.'
 13 Martin (not/usually/drive) to work. He
 (usually/walk).
 14 Sue (not/like) coffee. (she/prefer) tea.