Time expressions 1 – present simple & continuous

PART 1 – Read the class notes before you do each exercise.

Read the class notes in Spanish

a) We use the present continuous to describe actions in progress in a period of time that includes the present.

b) We use the present simple to talk about habits and about things that happen with a certain frequency.

c) We can use "always" with the present continuous to complain about something that we do not like.

1. Drag these time expressions into the correct gap:

always this year very often

My sister's studying at university _____, so we don't see her _____. She's _____ studying.

Read the class notes in Spanish

d) We use the present continuous to describe temporary states and situations.

e) We use the present simple to talk about science or permanent states.

2. Drag these words and phrases into the correct gap:

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is working this weekend works

My brother _____ at a factory, but he _____ at my father's bar _____.

Read the class notes in Spanish

f) We use the present continuous to describe plans we have already made for the near future (usually involving other people).

g) We use the present simple to talk about events in the near future regulated by a timetable or calendar.

3. Drag these words and phrases into the correct gap:

are travelling leaves this evening

We _____ to London _____. Our train _____ at five o'clock.

PART 2 – Choose the correct time expression.

a) What do you want? I'm very busy usually / at the moment.

b) We're revising basic verb tenses this week / always.

c) You never have / today have time to play with me. You're always / usually playing videogames!

d) Infections are being unusually high in that country sometimes / this winter.

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e) Infections by the 'flu virus are usually / this year very common in winter.

f) What time / How often does the next train to Manchester leave?

g) My friends and I are meeting tomorrow / always to celebrate Jack's birthday.

PART 3 – Choose the correct time expression.

a) We're enjoying very good weather usually / this week.

b) That red boat over there is the ferry to the Isle of Wight, it leaves in five minutes / at the moment.

c) Many young people are living with their parents frequently / at the moment because they can't find jobs.

d) People are buying more and more electric cars now / often.

e) It's not fair, my brother now / never does the washing-up.

f) My sister's going on a school trip to Italy next week / sometimes.

g) Sometimes / Today my teacher gives us a lot of homework.

h) We always / at the moment visit my grandmother, who lives in London, in the summer / next summer.

i) Now / usually they are discussing how to spend the money.

j) I don't usually / at the moment eat spinach, I don't like it.

k) We're going to a concert this evening / sometimes. The concert starts every day / at half-past eight.

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