



PRESENT SIMPLE vs **PRESENT CONTINUOUS**

1. When do we use Present Simple & Present Continuous?

Classify the following sentences.

- ★ Things which are always true
- ★ Temporary situations
- ★ Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least)
- ★ Things which are happening at the moment of speaking
- ★ Habits or things we do regularly
- ★ Temporary or new habits

PRESENT SIMPLE	
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	

2. Read the following examples. Write PS (for Present Simple) or PC (for Present Continuous) next to each sentence.

- a) Water boils at 100 degrees. _____
- b) Julie is living in Paris for a few months. _____
- c) I drink tea every morning. _____
- d) I'm drinking too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work. _____
- e) Jack works in a bank. _____
- f) Mum is reading the newspaper right now. _____

3. Now put the examples above 🙌 according to the use. Write the letter of the sentence.

- ✓ Things which are always true. For example: **sentence a**
- ✓ Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least).
For example: **sentence**
- ✓ Habits or things we do regularly. For example: **sentence**
- ✓ Things which are happening at the moment of speaking.
For example: **sentence**
- ✓ Temporary situations. For example: **sentence**
- ✓ Temporary or new habits. For example: **sentence**

4. What time expressions can we use for each tense? Put the following time expressions in the correct column.

every week – always – now – often – at the moment – never –
this morning – every Sunday – today – usually – every day – these days

PRESENT SIMPLE	PRESENT CONTINUOUS

5. Present Simple or Continuous? Choose the correct option.

- She _____ (not eat) pizza very often.
- What computer game _____ (you / play) now?
- I _____ (not like) romantic movies. I think they're boring!
- They _____ (play) football in the park every weekend.
- Mark _____ (watch) TV at the moment.
- What time _____ (she / start) school every day?
- Mark _____ (not watch) TV, he's reading.
- Can you speak slowly, please? I _____ (not understand) you.
- My mum _____ (not usually listen) to classical music.
- We _____ (not go) to the park because it's raining.
- _____ (Dad / make) breakfast this morning?
- How often _____ (you / go) to the gym?
- He _____ (wash) his car every Saturday.
- 'Can I use your pencil?' No, sorry. I _____ (use) it right now.
- My cousin usually _____ (ride) his bike to school, but he _____ (go) by car today.
- She _____ (smoke) thirty cigarettes a day, but at the moment she _____ (try) to stop.
- My best friend _____ (not like) tea, but she _____ (drink) it today because she's ill.



by Teacher Caterina Espin Borbore

