

Grammar in Use

Present Tenses

1. Mark the tenses with **PS** (present simple), **PC** (present continuous), **PPS** (present perfect simple), **PPC** (present perfect continuous). Then match them to the correct descriptions.

1	a	PC	They are moving to Australia this summer.
2			I usually have lunch at about 1 o'clock.
3			Derek is watching a new DVD now.
4			My cousin lives in Wales.
5			The train leaves at 5:30.
6			China is becoming more and more powerful.
7			I have been trying to call mum for an hour.
8			My sister is always borrowing my clothes.
9			She can't play. She has broken her leg.
10			Water boils at 100°C and freezes at 0°C.

- a** fixed arrangement in the near future
- b** permanent situations/states
- c** actions taking place at or around the moment of speaking; temporary situations
- d** action started in the past and continuing up to the present with emphasis on duration
- e** changing or developing situations
- f** recently completed action with the evidence in the present
- g** permanent truths or laws of nature
- h** repeated action with 'always' expressing annoyance, irritation or criticism
- i** timetables/programmes
- j** repeated/habitual action (especially with frequency adverbs)

2. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present tense.

- 1) She (move) house next week.
- 2) (you/wait) for a long time?

- 3) They (convert) the old mill into a beautiful new home at the moment.
- 4) The Earth (become) warmer and warmer.
- 5) The bus (come) every ten minutes.
- 6) Bob can't move house now because he (sign) a two-year contract.
- 7) Look! You (spill) coffee all over my desk!
- 8) He (drink) five cups of coffee every day.

3. Fill in: has/have been to, has/have been in or has/have gone to.

- 1) Alistair the cinema to see the new Superman film.
- 2) I that café many times.
- 3) Mum and dad the supermarket this morning but they haven't bought anything.
- 4) He the theatre twice this week.
- 5) Lucy has gone to the USA. She Los Angeles for three days.