

Present Tense

Present Simple:

We use the present simple for:

- repeating actions or habits – My mother **sings** in the church choir.
- Facts which are true at all times – My dad **works** in an office.
- Conditions (not actions) which are happening at the moment – The little girl **loves** her grandmother.

Exercises:

1. The cuckoo its eggs in another bird's nest. (lay)
2. Jane has health issues and seldom sugar. (eat)
3. My son still that Santa Claus is real (think)



Present Continuous:

We use the present continuous for:

- actions which are happening now – My husband is **cycling** in the Pick 'n Pay/Argus Cycle Tour.
- Actions which are currently in progress – not necessarily at the moment but this week, this month, this year – The world is **fighting** the covid 19 virus.
- Planned future actions – I am **visiting** my parents tonight.

Exercises:

1. My daughter **is** to be a doctor. (study)
2. Many people **are** of covid. (die)
3. I **am** to the dentist next week. (go)



Present Perfect:

We use present perfect for:

- Actions which happened at an unspecified time in the past – I **have been** to London.
- Things which started in the past and are still going on – the action is not completed – I **have lived** in this house for over 30 years. (overlap with Present Perfect Continuous)

Exercises:

1. I am really upset because I **have** my mother's engagement ring. (lost)
2. I **have** as a teacher since 1979. (work)
(overlap with present perfect continuous)

Present Perfect Continuous:

We use present perfect continuous for:

- An action that started in the past and continued up until the present – I **have been living** in this house for over 30 years. (overlap with Present Perfect)



- To show that something was happening lately or recently – I **have been getting** a lot of headaches lately.

Exercises:

1. The baby **has been** _____ for the past 3 hours. (sleep)
2. She **has been** _____ really hard, lately. (work)



Choose the correct form of the present tense:

1. Owls are nocturnal birds that _____ at night (hunt)
2. I am worried about him because he **has** not _____ well lately. (feel)
3. My family _____ Brazil several times. (visit)
4. I _____ much more than usual lately. (read)
5. You _____ away from work for two weeks already. (be)
6. He is much better because he _____ healthy food lately. (eat)
7. John _____ leaves the country, (rare) because he _____ flying. (hate)
8. My teacher has not been at school because she _____ a baby. (have)



9. You can't speak to him because he _____ at the moment. (rest)

10. Mary often _____ with her sister. (fight)
11. You always _____ to do your homework. (forget)



12. In winter it _____ a lot in Cape Town. (rain)
13. Mark is _____ steak and I am _____ fish. (eat)

14. We _____ to Moscow next month. (fly)
15. I _____ in Cape Town, but he _____ in Moscow. (live)

16. The children _____ fun _____ in the rain. (have, play)



17. Jenna _____ for a new flatmate. (look)
18. We _____ my family this Christmas. (visit)
19. The children _____ happily in the park. (play)

20. Mom is so happy because she _____ her purse. (find)

21. My gran always _____ the most delicious cakes. (bake)

22. Mark and Mary _____ a baby. (have)

23. Look how dirty you are! What _____ you _____ ? (do)

24. He is not a bad person! I _____ him all my life! (know)

25. I _____ for a dentist appointment for over a month. (wait)

26. My husband and I _____ a house later this year. (buy)

27. I _____ the dogs for a walk this afternoon. (take)

28. I _____ to London, but I haven't been to Paris. (be)

