

Contrast: Present Simple and Present Continuous

- 1- Speaking. How often do you buy clothes? Do you like shopping for clothes?



- 2- Read and listen the phone conversation and answer the questions.

1 What does Claire want to buy? _____
2 Where is Joel? Why is he there? _____
3 What does Billy invite Claire to do? _____

Billy Hey, Claire, where are you?
Claire I'm in a clothes shop in town. I'm looking for a new top. But I'm not having much luck. They're all really expensive.
Billy You should go to the department store. They don't cost very much there.
Claire OK. Thanks for the advice.
Billy No problem. Is Joel with you?
Claire No, he's at home. He hates shopping. He never comes with me.
Billy Well, do you and Joel want to go to the cinema on Saturday?
Claire Maybe. Our parents are in the middle of decorating the house and we're helping them. What time's the film?
Billy 7.30 in the evening.
Claire That should be OK. Can I phone you later about it?
Billy Sure. Good luck with the shopping! Try the department store. Bye!

- 3- Complete the LEARN THIS! Box with the correct tenses.

LEARN THIS! Present tense contrast



We use the:

- a _____ for something that happens regularly, always or never.
- b _____ for something happening at this moment.
- c _____ for something happening around this time.
- d _____ for a fact that is always true.
- e _____ with certain verbs that we don't usually use in continuous tenses: *believe, know, hate, like, need, prefer, understand, want, etc.*

- 4- Complete the sentences with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Then match each sentence with rules a – e in the LEARN THIS! Box.

- 1 'Let's go out.' 'No, it _____.' (rain) ____
- 2 This term we _____ about the Second World War in our history lessons. (learn) ____
- 3 _____ you _____ what time it is? (know) ____
- 4 Fish _____ in the sea. (live) ____
- 5 My parents _____ tennis every Saturday morning. (play) ____
- 6 I _____ this word. (not understand) ____
- 7 How often _____ Fred _____ with the housework? (help) ____

5-

Complete the text messages with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs below.

buy do know look look love get prefer read



Hi, Chris. What ¹ _____ you ² _____?

I ³ _____ for a birthday present for Emma.

Why don't you buy her a CD? She ⁴ _____ music.

I ⁵ _____. But she ⁶ _____ to download music. She never ⁷ _____ CDs.

Well, what about a book? She ⁸ _____ a lot.

Good idea. ⁹ _____ you ¹⁰ _____ ready for her party now?

Yes! I ¹¹ _____ forward to it!

Me too. See you later, then.