

PRESENT SIMPLE OR CONTINUOUS?

1

Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- a) I haven't decided yet about whether to buy a new car or a second-hand one.
But / *think about it*/I'm *thinking about it*.
- b) All right, you try to fix the television! But / *hope*/I'm *hoping* you know what you're doing.
- c) Every year / *visit*/I'm *visiting* Britain to improve my English.
- d) It's time we turned on the central heating. *It gets*/It's *getting* colder every day.
- e) Of course, you're Mary, aren't you! / *recognise*/I am *recognising* you now.
- f) The film of 'War and Peace' is very long. *It lasts*/It is *lasting* over four hours.
- g) I can see from what you say that your mornings are very busy! But what *do you do*/are you *doing* in the afternoons?
- h) I'm going to buy a new swimming costume. My old one *doesn't fit*/isn't *fitting* any more.
- i) That must be the end of the first part of the performance. What *happens*/is *happening* now?
- j) What's the matter? Why *do you look*/are you *looking* at me like that?

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2

Put each verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

- a) hear..... (hear) that you have been promoted. Congratulations!
- b) British people.....(drink) more and more wine, apparently.
- c) I hope Sarah will be here soon. I.....(depend) on her.
- d) Please be quiet, David. You.....(forever/interrupt).
- e) Hey, you! What.....(you/think) you're doing?
- f) Could you come here please? I.....(want) to talk to you now.
- g) Jane is away on holiday so Linda.....(handle) her work.
- h) To be honest, I.....(doubt) whether Jim will be here next week.
- i) You've only just started the job, haven't you? How.....(you/get on)?
- j) Pay no attention to Graham. He.....(just/be) sarcastic.

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3

Most of these sentences contain an error. Where there is an error, rewrite the sentence correctly.

- a) I'm depending on you, so don't make any mistakes! *(no errors)*
- b) Is this total including the new students?
Does this total include the new students?
- c) Excuse me, but do you wait for somebody?
- d) These potatoes are tasting a bit funny.
- e) How are you feeling today?
- f) I look forward to hearing from you.
- g) I have a feeling that something goes wrong.
- h) What's that you're eating?
- i) Are you hearing anything from Wendy these days?
- j) I think you're being rather mean about this.

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4

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using one of the words in **bold**. Do not change the word in **bold**.

- a) Charles and his father are exactly alike in appearance.
looks/looking
Charles *looks just/exactly like* his father.
- b) Take all your possessions and walk slowly to the exit.
belongs/belonging
Take everything and walk slowly to the exit.
- c) I'm finding it really enjoyable to work here.
enjoy/enjoying
I here.
- d) I take work home regularly because of my new responsibility at work.
means/meaning
My new responsibility at work work home regularly.
- e) In my cycling group there's George, Tom, Harry and me.
consists/consisting
My George, Tom, Harry and me.
- f) In your opinion, who's going to win the Cup?
think/thinking
Who do win the Cup?
- g) I'm seeing how wide the door is.
measure/measuring
I the door.