

PRESENT SIMPLE OR CONTINUOUS

1 Read the text and answer the questions.

- What is the girl's job?
- What are the hotel staff doing today?

.....
.....



Every summer I work as a receptionist in the local hotel. I like it. It's usually quiet and I don't have a lot of work. When guests **arrive**, I **give** them their keys. At 11.00, I always **have** coffee and a cake.

But this summer everything's different. Our town **is organising** an arts festival. 100 people are staying at the hotel. Today we're preparing for a big party! At the moment, the waiters **are bringing** more tables and the manager **is telling** me to do three different jobs. I hate it when it is like this! No coffee for me today!

2 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. Then complete the examples with the words in blue in the text.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Present Simple and Present Continuous

You use the **Present Simple** to talk about facts, habits and routines.

When guests ¹**arrive**, I ²_____ them their keys.

At 11.00, I always ³_____ coffee and a cake.

Time expressions: *always, usually, every day/morning/summer, on Saturdays, etc.*

You use the **Present Continuous**:

- to talk about activities at the moment of speaking.

The waiters ⁴_____ more tables. The manager

⁵_____ me to do three different jobs.

- to talk about temporary actions.

Our town ⁶_____ an arts festival. (this summer) Time expressions: *at the moment, now, right now, today, this month, this summer, etc.*

REMEMBER THIS

We don't use these verbs in the Present Continuous:

believe, hate, know, like, love, mean, need, prefer, understand, want.

3 Complete the sentences with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- I work (work) as a mechanic for SuperCars.
- Jane _____ (work) as a waitress in a café this summer.
- Please don't talk to me now. I _____ (finish) an email.
- I _____ (finish) work at five.
- We _____ (go) to the cinema on Saturdays, but today we _____ (go) to the theatre.

4 Complete Emily's email with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Freddie,

Guess where I am. At the moment, I ¹**am looking** (look) at the Atlantic!

I've got a holiday job as an au pair with a Spanish family. They're on holiday in Vigo just now and I ²_____ (look) after the children.

I usually ³_____ (play) with the kids, but at the moment they ⁴_____ (sleep). It's their siesta. I usually ⁵_____ (relax) too, but today I ⁶_____ (write) to you.

My 'working' day ⁷_____ (start) early; I ⁸_____ (take) the children for a swim. They ⁹_____ (love) the water! After dinner, I ¹⁰_____ (read) stories to them. It's so quiet now.

The sun ¹¹_____ (shine) and life ¹²_____ (be) perfect! I

¹³_____ (believe) I've got the best job in the world!

What about you? How's your holiday job going?

Love,

Emily

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of be or do. Use short forms if possible.

- I don't (not) like my job. I work at night and I can never sleep during the day.
- _____ you working at the moment? If not, can you help me in the kitchen?
- Where _____ your mum teach? Are you happy she doesn't teach in our school?
- Mr Brown _____ (not) work here. He works in our office in London.
- Do you work every weekend? Yes, I _____ but only on Saturdays.
- What _____ your brother doing at the moment?
- What _____ you want to do when you finish university?
- Are you phoning the plumber? Yes, I _____. I can't stop this water.

- 2 ★ Complete the sentences with the verbs in capitals in the correct forms. Use short forms if possible.

0 **PLAY**

Dan usually plays tennis on a Saturday but today he's playing golf.

1 **MEET**

We usually ^a _____ outside the cinema but it's raining so we ^b _____ in a café.

2 **HAVE**

My mum ^a _____ a bath at the moment. She usually ^b _____ a shower but she wants to relax today.

3 **DO**

It's seven o'clock in the morning and my brother ^a _____ his homework. I always ^b _____ my homework in the evening.

4 **HAVE**

We usually ^a _____ Maths on Friday afternoon but our teacher is ill so, today, we ^b _____ an extra English lesson.

5 **SEND**

My friends usually ^a _____ me texts but my phone isn't working so they ^b _____ me emails at the moment.

LET'S LISTEN!

3 **GRAMMAR** present simple or present continuous?

- a (3 11) Jack and his Swedish girlfriend Ingrid are on the London Eye. Cover the conversation and listen. Tick (✓) the places they see.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Trafalgar Square | ☐ St Paul's Cathedral |
| ☐ Buckingham Palace | ☐ Westminster Abbey |
| ☐ The Houses of Parliament | ☐ Big Ben |

- b Listen to the conversation again, and put the verbs in brackets into the present continuous or the present simple.

I Come on, let's stand over there.
J It's *moving*. (move). We _____ (go) up. Look, that's St Paul's Cathedral.
I Where? Oh yes, I can see it. Is that Buckingham Palace?
J Yes, and the Queen's at home.
I How do you know?
J Because the flag _____ (fly). It only _____ (fly) when she's at home.

I I think it _____ (start) to rain. Oh, yes look, it _____ (rain).
J It always _____ (rain) when we're sightseeing!
I We _____ (go) down now. I _____ (love) the view of the river with Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament.
J Me too. Go and stand there. I _____ (want) to take a photo.

I Quick, the door _____ (open). Let's go.