

## PRESENT SIMPLE vs PRESENT CONTINUOUS

**Practice 1.** Put the verbs in brackets in the present simple or present continuous:

1. I often \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to work by bus.
2. Where \_\_\_\_\_ (you/live)?
3. Be quiet! Paulina \_\_\_\_\_ (study) for her exam.
4. Don't turn off the radio. I \_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to it.
5. Tom \_\_\_\_\_ (work) as an architect for a large firm in London. This month, his company \_\_\_\_\_ (design) a new office building for one of its main clients.
6. I usually \_\_\_\_\_ (play) golf on Saturdays, but today I \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis.
7. Pablo is a journalist - he \_\_\_\_\_ (write) articles for a well-known newspaper. Right now, he \_\_\_\_\_ (write) about the economic situation in his country.
8. Look! Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ (drink) a glass of wine. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not/usually/drink) alcohol at this time of day.

**Practice 2 - State verbs.** Put the verbs in brackets in the present simple or present continuous:

1. We \_\_\_\_\_ (need) to wait. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/know) how long.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/like) this dress. I \_\_\_\_\_ (prefer) that one.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/understand) what that \_\_\_\_\_ (mean). Can you explain it?
4. Janet \_\_\_\_\_ (be) single. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not/see) anyone at the moment.
5. Tom \_\_\_\_\_ (think) of emigrating to Australia.
6. Right now, I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/see) a problem. I \_\_\_\_\_ (think) everything is fine.
7. Why \_\_\_\_\_ (she/be) here? I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/remember) inviting her.
8. I \_\_\_\_\_ (see) that you \_\_\_\_\_ (be) very busy at the moment. I'll come back later.
9. Don't use this tool. It \_\_\_\_\_ (seem) to be broken.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ (you/realize) what that \_\_\_\_\_ (mean)?
11. You \_\_\_\_\_ (be) normally a very polite person. Why \_\_\_\_\_ (you/be) so rude right now?
12. Josh \_\_\_\_\_ (love) Alice. Unfortunately, Alice \_\_\_\_\_ (not/think) much of him.

**Practice 3.** Complete the questions below using the present simple or present continuous. Then give true answers.

1. You / often / wear / jeans? \_\_\_\_\_
2. You / wear / jeans / right now? \_\_\_\_\_
3. It / often / rain / in your country? \_\_\_\_\_
4. It / rain / at the moment? \_\_\_\_\_
5. You / ever / work / on Saturdays? \_\_\_\_\_
6. You / work / today? \_\_\_\_\_
7. You / sometimes / think / about moving to another country?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. You / think / about moving to another country / at the moment?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. You / see / the dentist / this week? \_\_\_\_\_
10. You / sometimes / play / tennis? \_\_\_\_\_
11. You / play / tennis now? \_\_\_\_\_

*We often use the present continuous with **always** to talk about something that happens again and again. The meaning is like the present simple, but it usually describes a **habit that is irritating**.*

**Practice 4.** Complete the sentences below with a suitable verb and 'always', like in the example.

browse    buy    eat    look for    make  
misunderstand    rain    smile    forget    talk

1. Peter **is always forgetting** his keys. It's a real problem.
2. Anna \_\_\_\_\_ on the phone. Her phone bill must be very expensive!
3. Jeff is a very cheerful person. He \_\_\_\_\_.
4. You'll need an umbrella. It \_\_\_\_\_ in London.
5. Simon \_\_\_\_\_ the Internet. He needs to get out of his room.

6. You \_\_\_\_\_ what I say. Try to listen more carefully.
7. The company has too many customers, so they \_\_\_\_\_ new staff.
8. Joe \_\_\_\_\_ a chocolate bar. He really enjoys food!
9. You \_\_\_\_\_ the wrong milk! I don't drink full-fat milk.
10. I \_\_\_\_\_ the same mistakes! It's so irritating.

**Do you have any habits that are irritating?**