

PRESENT CONTINUOUS VS. SIMPLE PRESENT

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the Present Simple or Progressive as appropriate.



Dear Sara:

I _____ (write) to you from our hotel. I am on vacation with my family and we _____ (have) a great time. The weather is great and the sun _____ (shine). I _____ (look) outside my window and people _____ (go) towards the beach. There are some people who _____ (swim) and others _____ (sail). I _____ (look) at some children. They _____ (play) near the edge of the beach and others _____ (build) sandcastles.

Just to left of our hotel _____ (be) a big restaurant. There, some people _____ (sit) and _____ (drink) some kind of drink that looks delicious. The waiter _____ (go) towards them and I am sure that they _____ (be) ready to order. They look very hungry. At the moment my brother _____ (watch) television and my mother _____ (tell) him to get ready because we _____ (go) to do some sightseeing. My father _____ (wait) for us downstairs, so I will write to you again later in the week.

Have to go now.

Love Paula.

B. Answer these questions about the reading.

1. Where is Paula?
2. How is the weather?
3. What is Paula doing at the moment?
4. What are the people doing?
5. What are the children doing?
6. Where is the restaurant located?
7. Do the people at the restaurant look hungry?
8. What is Paula's brother doing?
9. What is Paula's father doing?
10. Who is Paula writing?

Present Simple or Present Continuous?

A. Complete the following sentences using the simple present or the present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

1. Usually, Nathalie and Chantal _____ (to play) in the park but today they _____ (to study) at school. The teacher _____ (to give) them an exam.
2. Kathy always _____ (smile) in class and at the moment some of the other pupils _____ (smile) as well.
3. Right now the pupils _____ (read) a book and the teacher _____ (to write) on the board.
4. Almost every day class _____ (begin) at 8:00, but on Tuesdays the class _____ (start) at 8:30.
5. She _____ (like) to bake cookies, but at the moment she _____ (not bake) cookies because she _____ (study) at school.
6. Dany _____ (enjoy) climbing mountains during his vacation, but this year he _____ (not take) any vacation because he _____ (study) English.
7. Martine _____ (do) computer exercises at the moment. She usually _____ (do) computer exercises on Tuesday.
8. Isabelle _____ (like) to read at the moment. She _____ (read) a very good novel about Ghandi.
9. Suzanne _____ (come) from France, and _____ (return) there for a holiday in the near future.
10. Claude _____ (try) to complete the on-line exercises at the moment.