1.2 Grammar

Present tenses

GRAMMAR Present tenses

Present Simple
I always press 'Snooze' when my alarm goes off. (routine)
I don't find it easy to get up. (permanent situation)

Present Continuous
Lots of people are listening to this podcast right now. (present action)
This term I'm trying to change my routine. (temporary situation)
He's making progress this term. (changing situation)

State verbs
belong, know, prefer, etc.
I know you're always at school early. NOT ~~*I'm knowing*~~

State and dynamic verbs
I think I need help! (state verb: opinion)
What are you thinking about? (dynamic verb: mental process)

1 ● Match the verbs in bold in sentences 1–5 with functions a–e.

1 [c] I **know** the answer.
2 [ ] Chris **is doing** his homework.
3 [ ] Sara **works** in a hospital.
4 [ ] **I'm working** at a restaurant for the summer.
5 [ ] I **get up** at 7 a.m. on weekdays.

a a temporary situation
b a present action
c ~~a state verb~~
d a routine
e a permanent situation

2 ●● Choose the correct option.

1 My aunt and uncle *have* / *are having* two children. They *go* / *'re going* to the same school.
2 I *don't agree* / *'m not agreeing* with the government's new education policy. What *do you think* / *are you thinking*?
3 I *don't watch* / *'m not watching* TV at the moment. I *do* / *'m doing* my homework.
4 We *stay* / *'re staying* in a different hotel this year because the place where we *usually stay* / *'re usually staying* is closed for the summer.
5 I *never ask* / *'m never asking* Phil for the answer. He *doesn't know* / *isn't knowing*.

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

1 I *hear* you*'re learning* to play the drums. Is that true? (hear/learn/prefer)
2 I usually _____ for the school bus, but this morning I _____ a lift from my dad. (get/take/wait)
3 How much _____ your rucksack _____? It _____ really heavy. (weigh/look)
4 Quick, the film _____! You _____ the best part! (finish/miss/start)
5 I _____ my football coach because she always _____ me to do my best. (encourage/give/like)

4 ●●● Complete the email with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs below.

close do enjoy have (x2) love ~~not know~~ not work practise sell stay want

Hey, Ben!

How are things?

I [1] *don't know* if you know, but I've got a summer job in Munich. I [2] _____ with my cousins who live here. It's great and I [3] _____ myself a lot.

I'm working in a small shop which [4] _____ designer clothes and the other people who work in the shop are really nice. We always [5] _____ lots of fun in the day. In the evening, when the shop [6] _____, we usually all [7] _____ dinner together somewhere. I [8] _____ Munich! It's a really interesting city and I [9] _____ my German too!

What [10] _____ (you) this summer? [11] _____ (you) to come and visit me in Munich? It would be great to see you again and there's lots of space at my cousins' house, so you can stay with us. I [12] _____ at weekends, so we could spend some time together. Let me know!

Harry

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