

FREE-TIME ACTIVITIES

What Are My Friends Doing These Days?

My friends enjoy doing different activities in their free time. These days, some of **my friends are watching** series and movies. They **are watching** new episodes at night. **A few** friends **are playing** video games, and they **sometimes** play online after school. **Many** of my friends **are listening** to music every day. One friend **is learning** to cook, but he **isn't cooking** very often. **Some** friends **aren't doing** much exercise these days because they **are studying** for their exams. I **am reading** a new book, and I **am reading** before bed. We **are all enjoying** our free time in different ways!

2. Grammar explanation

A. Present Continuous

We use the present continuous to talk about actions happening now or around the present time.

Form	Structure	Example
Affirmative (+)	Subject + am/is/are + verb-ing	Some friends are playing video games.
Negative (-)	Subject + am/is/are + not + verb-ing	My friends aren't exercising.
Question (?)	Am/Is/Are + subject + verb-ing?	Are they watching a movie?

Examples: I am listening to music. • He is learning to cook. • They are watching a series.

Remember: Use am, is, or are + the verb ending in -ing.

B. Quantifiers

Quantifiers tell us about the number or amount of people and things.

Quantifier	Meaning	Example
Some	An unspecified number or amount	Some friends are playing video games.
Many	A large number (countable nouns)	Many friends are listening to music.
A few	A small number (countable nouns)	A few students are studying.
One	A single person or thing	One friend is reading.
Much	An amount; often used with uncountable nouns in negatives/questions	We aren't doing much exercise.

C. Frequency adverbs and expressions

Frequency adverbs tell us how often an action happens. They usually describe habits and routines.

Expressions such as these days, right now, and at the moment are useful for temporary activities.

Word / expression	Meaning	Example
Always	Every time	I always listen to music after school.
Usually	Most of the time	I usually read before bed.
Often	Many times	They are often watching series at night.
Sometimes	On some occasions	He sometimes plays video games.
Rarely	Not very often	We rarely go to the cinema.
Never	Not at any time	I never play video games.
Every day	Each day	Many friends listen to music every day.
These days / right now	Around now / at this moment	Some friends are studying these days.

Important: Frequency adverbs are most commonly used with the present simple for habits (I usually listen to music). The present continuous describes actions happening now or around now.

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences

Complete each sentence with the correct present continuous form of the verb in parentheses.

1. Some friends _____ (watch) a new series these days.
2. My best friend _____ (learn) to play the guitar.
3. Many students _____ (study) for their exams.
4. I _____ (not / play) video games right now.
5. One friend _____ (listen) to music at the moment.
6. My friends _____ (not / exercise) this week.

Exercise 2. Choose the correct quantifier

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. _____ friends are watching movies these days. (Some / Much)
2. _____ friend is learning to cook. (One / Many)
3. _____ students are playing basketball after school. (A few / Much)
4. We aren't doing _____ exercise this week. (many / much)
5. _____ of my friends are listening to music. (Many / Much)
6. I have _____ friends who are reading new books. (some / much)

Exercise 3. Complete with a frequency adverb or expression

Use each option once: often • sometimes • never • every day • usually • rarely

1. I listen to music _____. I do it from Monday to Sunday.
2. My friends _____ watch series at night. They do it many times.
3. My brother _____ plays video games because he doesn't like them.
4. I _____ read before bed. It is my normal routine.
5. We _____ go to the cinema, maybe once or twice a year.
6. My friends _____ play football on weekends, but not every weekend.

Exercise 4. Write the correct sentences

Rewrite each sentence using the words in parentheses and the correct word order.

1. My friends / watch / a movie / now. (Affirmative)

2. Some students / play / video games / at the moment. (Negative)

3. One friend / learn / English / these days. (Question)

4. Many friends / not exercise / this week. (Affirmative)

5. My sister / read / a book / right now. (Question)

6. A few friends / listen / to music / at the moment. (Negative)
