Present simple or present continuous

Present Simple: The present simple tense is used to describe regular, habitual actions or general truths that happen in the present. It is also used for scheduled events in the future, and to express facts, opinions, or states that are true in general.

Form: The basic structure of the present simple tense is as follows:
Subject + base verb (infinitive form) + -s/-es (for third-person singular)



Examples:

- **The sun rises** in the east.
- **They speak Spanish** fluently.
- **She goes to school** every day.
- **The concert starts** at 8 PM tonight.
- **Water boils** at 100 degrees Celsius.

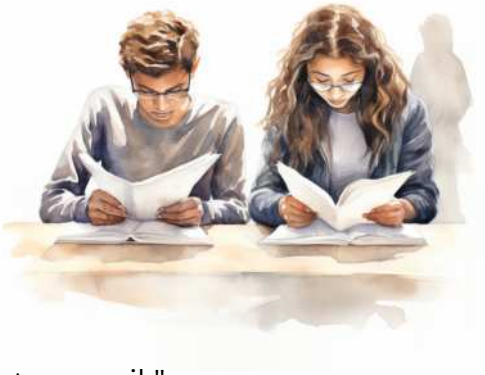
Usage:

1. Habitual actions: "I eat breakfast every morning."
2. General truths and facts: "Cats are independent animals."
3. Scheduled events in the future: "The meeting starts at 10 AM tomorrow."
4. Opinions or thoughts: "I believe in hard work."
5. States and characteristics: "He works as a teacher."

Now, let's move on to the present continuous tense.

Present Continuous: The present continuous tense is used to describe actions or situations that are happening at the moment of speaking or around the present time. It emphasises temporary actions or ongoing processes.

Form: The present continuous tense is formed using the following structure:
Subject + am/is/are + present participle (-ing form of the verb)
Examples:



- **They are studying** for their exams.
- **She is cooking** dinner right now.
- **We are watching** a movie at the theater.
- **I am not feeling** well today.
- **He is working** on a new project.

Usage:

1. Actions happening at the moment of speaking: "I am writing an email."
2. Temporary actions or situations: "She is staying with us for a few days."
3. Ongoing processes or actions: "They are building a new house."
4. Changing or developing situations: "The weather is getting colder."
5. Annoyance or complaints about repeated actions: "He is always interrupting me."

It's important to note that while the **present simple** describes general or habitual actions, the **present continuous** focuses on actions happening around the present time or temporary situations.

Present simple or present continuous exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer.

1. Which tense is used to describe regular, habitual actions?
a) Present continuous
b) Present simple

2. Which tense is used to describe actions happening at the moment of speaking?
a) Present simple
b) Present continuous

3. Which tense is used to express general truths or facts?
a) Present simple
b) Present continuous

4.Which tense is used to express opinions, thoughts, or states that are true in general?
a) Present continuous
b) Present simple

Present simple or present continuous exercise 2:

Complete the sentences with either the present simple or the present continuous form of the verb in brackets.

1. He _____ **(play)** football every Sunday.

2. They _____ **(watch)** a movie right now.

3. We _____ **(go)** to the park on Saturdays.

4. I _____ **(read)** a book at the moment.

5. Cats _____ **(like)** to climb trees.

6. She usually _____ **(wear)** a hat in the summer.

7. The children _____ **(play)** outside right now.

8. We _____ **(have)** a picnic every month.

9. They _____ **(visit)** their grandparents on weekends.

10. The chef _____ **(prepare)** dinner in the kitchen at the moment.

11. The flowers _____ **(bloom)** in the spring.

12. The students _____ **(listen)** to the teacher now.

13. She _____ **(work)** in the garden every afternoon.

14. The baby _____ **(sleep)** peacefully right now.

15. He always _____ **(drink)** coffee in the morning.

16. I _____ **(meet)** my friends on Fridays.

17. We _____ **(go)** to the beach every summer.

18. He _____ **(study)** French at the moment.

19. They _____ **(travel)** to different countries every year.

20. They _____ **(believe)** in equal rights for everyone.

Present simple or present continuous: answer key

Grammar practice · A2 Elementary

Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. b) Present simple
2. b) Present continuous
3. a) Present simple
4. b) Present simple

Exercise 2

1. plays
2. are watching / 're watching
3. go
4. am reading / 'm reading
5. like
6. wears
7. are playing / 're playing
8. have
9. visit
10. is preparing / 's preparing
11. bloom
12. are listening / 're listening
13. works
14. is sleeping / 's sleeping
15. drinks
16. meet
17. go
18. is studying / 's studying
19. travel
20. believe