

PRESENT SIMPLE – PRESENT CONTINUOUS

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Note that in some sentences you may be able to use both Present Simple and Present Continuous.

1. How many brothers and sisters ***do you have?*** (have)
2. Hold on a second, Mary. I want to turn off the gas; the water _____ (boil) over.
3. Now I _____ (realise) that I made a mistake.
4. Elephants _____ (live) to be about as old as humans.
5. Our English teacher _____ (not believe) in giving tests, only projects.
6. He _____ (live) in town now, but he _____ (move) to the country soon.
7. Dan won't be in the office next Tuesday; he _____ (take) the day off.
8. My boss _____ (always complain) about the amount of talking in my office.
9. How _____ (you/feel) about your new school?
10. I can tell by the look on your face that you _____ (think) about Jill right now.
11. Speak up! She _____ (not hear) very well.
12. Mrs. Jones, your son is a clever boy but he _____ (always talk) in class.
13. I _____ (think) you _____ (be) wrong. She _____ (spell) her name with a "C", not with a "K".
14. I'm not sure about the trip. It _____ (depend) on the weather.
15. Jeannie and her grandmother are very close. They _____ (phone) one another at least once a day.

2. Fill in the blanks with the Present Simple or Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

1. **A. *Are your brothers taking*** (your brothers / take) karate lessons this year?
B. No, they _____ (be not). Martin _____ (study) photography while James _____ (prefer) football.
2. **A.** Mark hasn't been playing football very well lately. What _____ (he / usually do) every afternoon.
B. He _____ (ride) his bike, _____ (watch) TV and _____ (talk) on the phone. He _____ (not have) much time for football.
3. **A.** Why _____ (Dave / sit) in the corner when he should be playing basketball?
B. Well, his coach _____ (punish) him because he _____ (not know) the rules of the game.
4. **A.** How often _____ (you / paint) your house?
B. we _____ (usually paint) it every two years, but that _____ (depend) on how dirty the walls are.
A. _____ (you / plan) to paint it soon? If so, I'd like to help you.
5. **A.** _____ (she / write) a letter to Charles or Mary?
B. Oh, I'm sure she _____ (not write) a letter to Charles.
She _____ (never write) to boys.
6. **A.** _____ (you / understand) the difference between Present Simple and Present Continuous?
B. Not yet, but I _____ (try) very hard.
7. **A.** What time _____ (Linda / leave) the office every night?
B. Well, she's really serious about her job; she _____ (not leave) until about 7.00 pm

8. A. What _____ (be) purple, _____ (have) three heads and _____ (speak) English and Hungarian?
 B. I _____ (not know) and I certainly _____ (not want) to find out!
9. A. _____ (she / take) lemon and sugar in her tea?
 B. Well, She _____ (take) sugar, but she _____ (not take) lemon. She _____ (prefer) milk if there is any.
10. A. _____ (John / leave) for India tomorrow evening?
 B. Well, he has his passport, but he _____ (not have) his ticket yet.

3. Fill in the gaps with the appropriate form of the verb in brackets.

1. Every Monday, Sally (drive) _____ her kids to football practice.
2. Usually, I (work) _____ as a secretary at ABT, but this summer I (study) _____ French at a language school in Paris. That is why I am in Paris.
3. Shhhhhh! Be quiet! John (sleep) _____.
4. Don't forget to take your umbrella. It (rain) _____.
5. I hate living in Seattle because it (rain, always) _____.
6. I'm sorry I can't hear what you (say) _____ because everybody (talk) _____ so loudly.
7. Justin (write, currently) _____ a book about his adventures in Tibet. I hope he can find a good publisher when he is finished.
8. Do you want to come over for dinner tonight? – Oh, I'm sorry, I can't. I (go) _____ to a movie tonight with some friends.
9. The business cards (be, normally) _____ printed by a company in New York. Their prices (be) _____ cheap, yet the quality of their work is quite good.
10. The delicious chocolate (be) _____ made by a small chocolatier in Zurich, Switzerland.

4. A Trekking Journal

November 12, 1997

Today (be) _____ the second day of my trek around Mount Annapurna. I am exhausted and my legs (shake) _____; I just hope I am able to complete my trek. My feet (kill, really) _____ me and my toes (bleed) _____, but I (want/still) _____ to continue.

Nepal is a fascinating country, but I have a great deal to learn. Everything (be) _____ so different, and I (try) _____ to adapt to the new way of life here. I (learn) _____ a little bit of the language to make communication easier; unfortunately, I (learn not) _____ foreign languages quickly. Although I (understand, not) _____ much yet, I believe that I (improve, gradually) _____.

I (travel, currently) _____ with Liam, a student from Leeds University in England. He (be) _____ a nice guy, but impatient. He (walk, always) _____ ahead of me and (complain) _____ that I am too slow. I (do) _____ my best to keep up with him, but he is younger and stronger than I am. Maybe, I am just feeling sorry for myself because I am getting old.

Right now, Liam (sit) _____ with the owner of the inn. They (discuss) _____ the differences between life in England and life in Nepal. I (know, not) _____ the real name of the owner, but everybody (call, just) _____ him Tam. Tam (speak) _____ English very well and he (try) _____ to teach Liam some words in Nepali. Every time Tam (say) _____ a new word, Liam (try) _____ to repeat it. Unfortunately, Liam (seem, also) _____ to have difficulty learning foreign languages. I just hope we don't get lost and have to ask for directions.

5. Put the verbs in the correct tense, present simple or Present Continuous.

Leila Markham is an environmentalist. She is being interviewed on the radio by Tony Hunt, a journalist.

TONY: So tell me, Leila; why is it important to save the rainforests?

LEILA: There are a number of reasons. One is that many plants which could be useful in medicine (1) _____ (grow) in the rainforest. We (2) _____ (not / know) all the plants yet – there are thousands of them. Researchers (3) _____ (try) to discover their secrets before they are destroyed.

TONY: I see. What other reasons are there?

LEILA: Well, I'm sure you've heard of global warming?

TONY: You mean, the idea that the world (4) _____ (get) warmer?

LEILA: That's right. The rainforests (5) _____ (have) an important effect on the earth's climate. They (6) _____ (disappear) at a terrifying rate and soon they will be gone. People (7) _____ (not / do) enough to save them.

TONY: But is global warming such a problem? I (8) _____ (enjoy) warm sunshine.

LEILA: Well, what (9) _____ (happen) when you (10) _____ (heat) ice?

TONY: It (11) _____ (melt) of course.

LEILA: OK. The polar ice caps (12) _____ (consist) of millions of tons of ice. If they (13) _____ (melt), the level of the sea will rise and cause terrible floods. Many scientists (14) _____ (believe) that temperatures (15) _____ (already / rise). We must do everything we can to prevent global warming, and that (16) _____ (include) preserving rainforests!

TONY: thank you, Leila, and good luck in your campaign.

LEILA: Thank you.

(English Grammar in Use Supplementary Exercises CUP)

6. Choose the correct option:

- This is my friend Trevor. He _____ baseball.
 - loves
 - is loving
- In fact, he is a baseball fanatic and _____ every day from April to October.
 - is playing
 - plays
- His team mates _____ that he is a very good player.
 - think
 - are thinking
- It is just the beginning of the season now, and already he _____ well.
 - plays
 - is playing
- Look at the picture. Trevor _____ the ball very hard.
 - is hitting
 - hits
- He always _____ the ball very hard, but
 - hits
 - is hitting

7. I _____ that this is going to be a home run.
 - a. feel
 - b. am feeling
8. You can't see it, but at this moment, the ball _____ over the far wall. Yes it's going to be a home run.
 - a. is flying
 - b. flies
9. I know what my friend _____ right now.
 - a. is thinking
 - b. thinks
10. He _____ to win the championship and
 - a. wants
 - b. is wanting
11.he _____ that his team has a good chance.
 - a. believes
 - b. is believing
12. People say that they _____ a good chance.
 - a. are having
 - b. have
13. Who _____? It's too early in the season to predict that.
 - a. knows
 - b. is knowing
14. If they are serious about the championship, it _____ a lot of hard work.
 - a. is meaning
 - b. means
15. Of course, if they continue to play like they _____ now, they will probably be champions.
 - a. are playing
 - b. play

7. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets:

1. She prefers (prefer) her coffee without sugar.
2. I _____ (have) a shower now. Please answer the phone!
3. What _____ (this word / mean?)
4. Sarah _____ (see) the dentist at four o'clock on Wednesday.
5. How many rooms _____ (this house / have)?
6. They _____ (think) of selling their house.
7. I _____ (not believe) how much this jacket _____ (cost)
8. The doctor says that he _____ (doubt) that you will need to take medicine.

8. Fill in the blanks with time expressions from the list. Some time expressions can fit more than one sentence, but make sure that you use each time expression only once.

all year round	from now on	today
at 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday	in the late afternoon	tomorrow
at the moment	next Monday	whenever she has the car
every summer	right now	when the season changes

- a. She's having a bath and she can't come to the phone *right now*.
- b. Gina starts to sneeze _____
- c. I enjoy going for walks _____
- d. She goes for a drive _____
- e. In this country, we usually have apples _____
- f. You're going to the dentist _____
- g. The electrician is coming to fix the plug _____ so you'll have to wait until he comes.
- h. She's feeling happier _____ than she did yesterday.
- i. Joanna is resting _____, but I'm sure she'll get up soon.
- j. He's going to swim 20 lengths a day _____.
- k. Juan and I are starting to do our project _____.
- l. People from all over the world visit Greece _____.

9. Complete the following sentences. They contrast the Present Simple and Present Continuous.

- a. My dog hardly ever barks.
That's funny. *It's barking* right now.
- b. Are you going out for lunch today?
Yes, _____ once a week.
- c. Are you lying to me?
Of course not! _____ never _____.
- d. She's an excellent cook. She always makes the most delicious meals.
I know! She _____ a cheese soufflé right now.
- e. Does your brother watch TV?
Yes, in fact _____ right now.
- f. Is Andrew always making a mess?
Oh yes, _____ all the time.
- g. I don't often disturb you, do I?
Well, _____ right in the middle of my favourite programme.
- h. I'm watching the sunset now. Isn't it beautiful?
- i. Yes, it is. I _____ every evening.
- j. Do you read books in English?
- k. Yes, in fact I _____ a novel by Jeffrey Archer right now.

10. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. My sister _____ (fly) home from London today. Her flight _____ (arrive) in one hour, so I _____ (leave) the house right now to get to the airport on time.
2. " _____ (you / apply) for the job of office manager?"
"Yes, I am"
"Please have a seat. Mr Lyndon _____ (speak) on the phone at the moment. I'll call you when he's available"
3. Diana _____ (practise) the piano regularly. She _____ (play) in a concert next week, so she _____ (work) especially hard this week.
4. Andrew _____ (look) for work as a translator. He _____ (speak) three languages fluently.

11. Spot the mistake : Can you correct them?

- a. I am usually coming to school by bus.

- b. She does her homework now.

- c. My friends come tonight at 8.00.

- d. Who this book belongs to?

- e. We never are late.

- f. This box is weighing three kilos.

- g. What you think?

- h. What are you meaning?

12. Put the verb in brackets into the Present Simple or Present Continuous:

- 1. We (rebuild) _____ our house.
- 2. They usually (have) _____ dinner at 7 o'clock.
- 3. The waiter (bring) _____ the dessert.
- 4. The shop (open) _____ at 8.
- 5. The lesson (begin) _____ at seven in the morning.
- 6. She (not work) _____ very hard. She was better last year.
- 7. She (look) _____ for a new house to live in.
- 8. Look! The children (drink) _____ beer!
- 9. It (rain) _____ very often in the south of England.
- 10. I usually (do) _____ my homework after dinner.
- 11. I never (go) _____ out on Friday evening.
- 12. I (not listen) _____ to the radio very often.
- 13. How often (you / cook) _____ lunch?
- 14. Hello! Where (you / go) _____?
- 15. He usually (watch) _____ TV on Sundays.
- 16. He sometimes (go) to the pub.
- 17. He (study) _____ Spanish this year.
- 18. He (come) _____ to visit my mother every day.
- 19. Can you hear that? Somebody (sing) _____
- 20. At present Lucy (work) _____ on her project.
- 21. Why (you / look) _____ at me like that?
- 22. We usually go skiing every year, but this year (we/not/go) _____ anywhere.
- 23. The earth (go) _____ round the Sun.
- 24. She told me her address, but I (not remember) _____.
- 25. She (prefer) _____ tea to coffee.
- 26. Paul (not like) _____ maths.
- 27. Normally I get up at 8, but this week I (get up) _____ at seven.

28. My sister Sonia (live) _____ in London.
29. My brother usually (go) _____ to work by train.
30. Lucy is not in London at the moment. She (stay) _____ in Paris.
31. Let's go jogging. It (not rain) _____ at the moment.
32. I (learn) _____ Spanish. My friend is teaching me.
33. How is your father? Is he still ill? No, he (get better) _____.
34. Do not put the scissors away I (use) _____.
35. Can you hear those girls? What (they / talk) _____?
36. Can you cook? No but I (learn) _____.
37. Are you thirsty? (you / want) _____ something to drink?
38. Ann (look for) _____ a new job.
39. "What (your parents / do) _____?" " They are teachers"
40. (you / ever/ work) _____ at the weekend?
41. (you / go) _____ to the party next Saturday? *
42. "Where is Kate?" " she (watch) _____ TV in her room.
43. At work he usually (sit) _____ all day.
44. Do you know anyone who (speak) _____ Japanese?
45. He usually (work) _____ with paints and brushes.
46. I never (go) _____ out in the evening.
47. I'm looking at that woman, she (wear) _____ such a lovely dress.
48. In his job he usually (stand) _____.
49. Most people (not like) _____ cats.
50. My brother (not like) _____ animals.
51. My dog (not eat) _____ vegetables.
52. Oak trees (grow) _____ very slowly.
53. Right now she (run) _____ down a hill.
54. She (have) _____ a shower at the moment.
55. She often (talk) _____ to herself.
56. The days (be) _____ longer in the summer.
57. They (go) _____ on holiday every winter.
58. We (go) _____ to the cinema this Friday.
59. What's the noise? Somebody (practise) _____.
60. Why (you/drive) _____ so fast today?
61. What does she usually do at the weekends? She (take) _____ the dog for a walk.
62. They (save up) _____ because they want to go abroad next year.
63. The water (boil) _____ now. Shall I prepare tea?
64. The duck (smell) _____ delicious. Would you like some?
65. Sometimes Tom (do) _____ his homework in the library.
66. My husband very often (read) _____ detective novels.
67. Look at that girl. I wonder (she/ wait for) _____.
68. I (wear) _____ my favourite skirt today.
69. I (give) _____ a birthday party tomorrow. (you / come) _____?*
70. Hardly anybody (sing) _____ like you do.
71. "What does tom think of me?" "He (think) _____ you are very funny.
72. (you / believe) _____ me? No, I (not / believe) _____ you.
73. Peter (use) _____ the dictionary! It's not allowed in this exam!
74. (you / do) _____ anything tonight?

13. Put the verb in brackets into the simple present or the present continuous tense:

1. Cuckoos (not build) _____ nests. They (use) _____ the nests of other birds.
2. You can't see Tom now: he (have) _____ a bath.
3. He usually (drink) coffee but today he (drink) _____ tea.
4. What _____ she (do) _____ in the evenings? – She usually (play) _____ cards or (watch) _____ TV.
5. I won't go out now as it (rain) _____ and I (not have) _____ an umbrella.
6. The last train (leave) _____ the station at 11.30.
7. He usually (speak) _____ so quickly that I (not understand) _____ him.
8. Ann (make) _____ a dress for herself at the moment. She (make) _____ all her own clothes.
9. Hardly everyone (wear) _____ a hat nowadays.
10. I'm afraid I've broken one of your coffee cups. – Don't worry. I (not like) _____ that set anyway.
11. I (wear) _____ my sunglasses today because the sun is very strong.
12. Tom can't have the newspaper now because his aunt (read) _____ it.
13. I'm busy at the moment. I (redecorate) _____ this sitting room.
14. The kettle (boil) _____ now. Shall I make the tea?
15. you (enjoy) _____ yourself or would you like to leave now? – I (enjoy) _____ myself very much. I (want) _____ to stay to the end.
16. How do you (get) _____ to work as a rule? – I usually (go) _____ by bus but tomorrow I (go) _____ in Tom's car.
17. Why do you (put) _____ on your coat? – I (go) _____ for a walk. You (come) _____ with me? – Yes, I'd love to come. You (mind) _____ if I bring my dog?
18. How much do you (owe) _____ him? – I (owe) _____ him 5 \$. – you (intend) _____ to pay him?

14. Present simple and Present continuous Revision.

Put each verb in brackets into the Present simple or Present continuous.

Ex: (You like) fast food? I (go) to get some hamburgers.

Do you like fast food? I'm going to get some hamburgers.

a.- "(you eat) Indian food? (I cook) a curry at the moment."

" Thanks but (I not like) spicy food. And (just I go) out."

b.- "(you like) dancing? (I go) every Saturday. (always I have) a good time."

" Well (it depend) on the kind of dancing."

c.- "(We think) of going skating. (It not cost) a lot. Come with us."

" Sorry, but (I study) for a test tomorrow."

d.- "(always we go) for an ice-cream after a film. Coming?"

" That's very kind of you but (I live) very far away and (it take) me ages to get home."

15. Verbs used in Present simple only

Rewrite each sentence using the verb given in brackets.

Ex: *The meal is very cheap. (cost)*

The meal doesn't cost a lot

- a.- There is a lot of salt in hamburgers. (contain)
- b.- Losing weight is also a matter of what exercise you take. (depend on)
- c.- She has a fish restaurant near the harbour. (own)
- d.- Actually this recipe book is mine. (belong to)
- e.- Now I am slimmer, my clothes are the wrong size. (fit)
- f.- A three-course meal is really expensive here.(cost)

16. Put a verb into each space in the most suitable form, present simple or present continuous.

Belong to, chew, eat, feel, get, have, imagine, know, look at, love, make, need, put on, see, sit, stop, take, think, watch, write

At the moment I [1] am sitting in the kitchen and I [2] _____ my brother eating a pizza. I [3] _____ really jealous. You [4] _____, I [5] _____ problems with my weight. Every time I [6] _____ a pizza from a distance, I [7] _____ that I [8] _____ fatter. I [9] _____ a keep-fit class, but the problem is that I [10] _____ weight very easily and I [11] _____ food. I never [12] _____ eating. In fact, I [13] _____ this article and I [14] _____ a carrot at the same time. But I [15] _____ sensibly now, only fruit and vegetables, no chocolates. That's what [16] _____ you fat. And I [17] _____ of going jogging every morning but I [18] _____ what will happen. When I [19] _____ a lot of exercise I [20] _____ a good meal afterwards. Oh well, another carrot!

17. Put the verb given into either the present simple or present continuous:

- a.- Can you wait about five minutes? I (dry) _____ my hair.
- b.- I don't think she'll ever stop smoking. She (give up) _____ at least three times every month!
- c.- Don't worry, there's no need to correct yourself every time you (make) _____ a mistake.
- d.- It's so boring here! We (do) _____ the same thing all the time.
- e.- In this country landlords (decorate) _____ flats before new people (move in) _____.
- f.- She says she went on a diet, but she (weigh) _____ exactly the same!

18. Complete the sentences below by using each verb once only in a suitable form:

cost, depend, know, matter, need, seem, suppose, want

- a.- We can't make any tea because the kettle doesn't seem to be working.
- b.- I am never surprised that Helen _____ all the answers.
- c.- The exact cost of the car _____ on what extras are included.

- d.- Don't worry if you are a bit late, it _____.
- e.- What are you doing tonight? (you) _____ to come skating with me?
- f.- You have had a good journey. I _____ you want to go to bed now.
- g.- I'd like to take a holiday abroad, but it _____ too much.
- h.- He has been ill lately, the doctor says he _____ rest.

20. Choose the most suitable line for speaker A in each mini-dialogue.

- a.- A Where are you living? ✓
Where do you live?
B I'm staying with some friends for the time being.
- b.- A What are you thinking?
What do you think?
B It's probably a good idea.
- c.- A Are you speaking Turkish?
Do you speak Turkish?
B No, German of course. Don't you recognise it?
- d.- A Are you eating that?
Do you eat that?
B No, I'm not allowed to.
- e.- A Are you reading this magazine?
Do you read this magazine?
B When I can find it, but it's hard to get hold of in this town.
- f.- A How do you do?
How are you doing?
B Fine, thanks.