

Present Simple & Present Continuous

Revision

The present simple - Form

Positive statements	Negative statements	Wh- questions
I / you / we / they play she / he / it plays	I do not (don't) play she does not (doesn't) play	Where do you play? Where does she play?
Yes / No questions	Positive short answers	Negative short answers
Do you play? Does she play?	Yes, I do. Yes, she does.	No, I don't. No, she doesn't.

Use the present simple to talk about:

- **General truth, permanent situation:**

- She is 27 years old and has three children.
- Digital cameras cost a lot of money.
- I am a student.
- I live in London.

The present simple:

- **Regular / repeated / habitual actions:**

- She takes a train to work but I usually drive.
- I watch television everyday.
- He smokes.

The present simple:

- **Timetables and schedules:**

- The train leaves at 6am.
- We arrive in Rome at 19.30.

The Present Simple

- **State verbs:**

- Do you understand what I mean?
- Do you believe in God?
- Jill is interested in politics but she doesn't belong to a political party.
- I'm hungry, I want something to eat.

More state verbs:

- love, hate, dislike, want, need, prefer
- know, think, believe, understand, mean, recognize, remember, forget
- Belong, owe, have, possess
- Contain, consist:
 - Does this meal contain sugar?
 - The jury panel consists of ten members.

The present simple with **adverbs of frequency**:

- She **always** takes the train to work.
- I don't **often** go shopping.
- How **often** do you wash your hair?
- Julia **never** eats breakfast.
- I **usually** go to work by car by **sometimes** I walk.

The present simple – 3rd person singular spelling

He works in a factory.
She reads every evening.

- in verbs which end in sh, ch, ss, x, an es is added: washes, watches, kisses, fixes. This is pronounced /tʃz/.
- in verbs which end in a consonant +y, the y is changed to an i and es is added: try – tries, carry – carries.

The Present Continuous - Form

Positive statements	Negative statements	Wh- questions
I am (I'm) playing	I'm not playing	Where are you playing?
you are (you're) playing	you're not playing / you aren't playing	
we are (we're) playing	we're not playing / we aren't playing	
they are (they're) playing	they're not playing / they aren't playing	
she / he / it is (she's / he's / it's) playing	he's not playing / he isn't playing	Where is she playing?
Yes / No questions	Positive short answers	Negative short answers
Are they playing?	Yes, they are.	No, they aren't. / No, they're not.
Is he playing?	Yes, he is.	No, he isn't. / No, he's not.

Use the present continuous to talk about:

- **Actions that are going on at the moment of speaking:**
 - Jane's having a bath at the moment.
 - Why are you sitting at my desk?
 - It is raining.

The Present Continuous:

- **Temporary situations:**
 - He's working in Oxford just now (but next year he will do something else)
- * He works in Oxford – (he works there all the time – present simple for permanent situation)

The Present Continuous:

- **Change:**

- He's getting fat.
- The climate is becoming warmer.
- The city is becoming more and more dangerous.

The present continuous:

- **to express annoyance or intensity/frequency (with always):**

- He is always losing his keys.
- He is always working.

The present continuous - spelling

- In one-syllable verbs which end in a vowel and a consonant (e.g. *stop*, *run*), the consonant is doubled in the -ing form: *stopping*, *running*.
- In verbs which end in *e* (e.g. *take*, *lose*), the *e* is lost in the -ing form: *taking*, *losing*. But verbs which end in double *e* (e.g. *see*, *agree*), keep both *es*: *seeing*, *agreeing*.