

Contrast: present simple and present continuous

I can talk about what usually happens and what is happening now.

1 Complete the rules. Write *present simple* or *present continuous*.

We use the:

- _____ for something that happens regularly, always or never.
- _____ for something happening at this moment.
- _____ for something happening around this time.
- _____ for a fact that is always true.
- _____ with certain verbs that we don't usually use in continuous tenses, e.g. *believe, know, etc.*

2 Match the sentences (a–h) with the rules in exercise 1. Write 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

- This week my dad is working in London.
- I'm wearing a blue T-shirt.
- School finishes at four o'clock.
- Do you understand this word?
- I don't want a sandwich.
- The sun comes up in the east.
- We usually walk to school.
- Why are you smiling?

3 Complete the email. Use the present simple or present continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

✉ To: mel@email.com

Hi Mel,

What ¹ _____ (you / do) at the moment?

I ² _____ (sit) in Mario's café.

I ³ _____ (drink) a milkshake. This café

⁴ _____ (make) the best milkshakes in town!

I ⁵ _____ (often / come) here after school with my friend Sally. In fact, I ⁶ _____ (wait) for her now. She's always late. I ⁷ _____ (not understand) why! Anyway, can I borrow your geography textbook? I ⁸ _____ (need) it for that test next week. I can't find mine. Oh, Sally ⁹ _____ (come) into the café now.

Bye, see you later!

Dan



4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the present simple in one gap and the present continuous in the other.

- Tom often _____ trainers to school, but today he _____ shoes. (wear)
- We _____ a DVD at the moment, but we _____ TV most evenings. (watch)
- I usually _____ a sandwich for lunch, but today I _____ some soup. (have)
- My mum _____ in an office in Manchester, but this month she _____ in Glasgow. (work)
- It hardly ever _____ here, but it _____ at the moment. (snow)
- Jason and Tilly _____ their bedrooms right now, but they usually _____ them at the weekend. (tidy)

5 Complete the sentences with the verbs below. Use the affirmative or negative form of the present simple or the present continuous.

have know laugh like prefer sing watch

- Which _____ you _____, history or geography?
- 'Where's George?' 'He _____ a shower.'
- I _____ this pizza. It's horrible!
- 'We _____ the answer to this question.' 'Well, ask the teacher.'
- 'What's that terrible noise?' 'Kate _____ !'
- 'Why _____ Ben _____ ?' 'Because he _____ a funny film.'

6 There are mistakes in five of these sentences. Find the mistakes and write the five sentences correctly.

- 'Are you wanting an ice cream?' 'No, thanks.'
- Right now I do my homework.
- I'm reading a really good book about Cristiano Ronaldo.
- Josh and Sam are hating maths.
- I don't believe in ghosts.
- I'm sometimes play the guitar in my bedroom.
- It's sometimes raining a lot in Scotland.