

PRESENT CONTINUOUS AND SIMPLE PRESENT

present continuous (I am doing)

We use the continuous for things happening at or around the time of speaking. The action is not complete.

I am doing

past now future

- The water **is boiling**. Be careful.
- Listen to those people. What language **are they speaking**?
- Let's go out. It **isn't raining** now.
- 'I'm busy.' 'What **are you doing**?'
- I'**m getting** hungry. Let's go and eat.
- Kate wants to work in Italy, so she's **learning** Italian.
- The population of the world **is increasing** very fast.

present simple (I do)

We use the simple for things in general or things that happen repeatedly.

I do

past now future

- Water **boils** at 100 degrees Celsius.
- Excuse me, **do you speak** English?
- It **doesn't rain** very much in summer.
- What **do you usually do** at weekends?
- I always **get** hungry in the afternoon.
- Most people **learn** to swim when they are children.
- Every day the population of the world **increases** by about 200,000 people.

Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

- 1 a I usually get (I / usually / get) hungry in the afternoon.
b I'm getting (I / get) hungry. Let's go and eat something.
- 2 a '..... (you / listen) to the radio?' 'No, you can turn it off.'
b '..... (you / listen) to the radio a lot?' 'No, not very often.'
- 3 a The River Nile (flow) into the Mediterranean.
b The river (flow) very fast today – much faster than usual.
- 4 a I'm not very active. (I / not / do) any sport.
b What (you / usually / do) at weekends?
- 5 a Rachel is in New York right now. (She / stay) at the Park Hotel.
b (She / always / stay) there when she's in New York.

Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

- 1 Why are all these people here? What's happening (What / happen)?
- 2 Julia is good at languages. (She / speak) four languages very well.
- 3 Are you ready yet? (Everybody / wait) for you.
- 4 I've never heard this word. How (you / pronounce) it?
- 5 Kate (not / work) this week. She's on holiday.
- 6 I think my English (improve) slowly. It's better than it was.
- 7 Nicola (live) in Manchester. She has never lived anywhere else.
- 8 Can we stop walking soon? (I / start) to get tired.