



Present simple

POSITIVE			NEGATIVE			QUESTION			SHORT ANSWER		
I You We They		work	I You We they	don't (do not)	work	Do	I you we they	work?	Yes _____ No	I you we they	do _____ don't
He She It		works	He She It	doesn't (does not)	work	Does	he she it	work?	Yes _____ No	he she it	does _____ doesn't

USE

Long-term situations

EXAMPLES

*They **live** in Hong Kong.
Where **do** you **live**?*

Routine activities

*We often **go** to Spain on holiday.
How often **do** you **check** your emails?*

Feelings and Opinions

*Do you **like** spicy food?
I **agree** with him.*

Facts

*House prices **increase** every year.
The journey **takes** seven hours.*

Timetables and Programmes

*My flight **leaves** at 6.30 tomorrow morning.
What time **does** the concert **start**?*

Present continuous

POSITIVE			NEGATIVE			QUESTION			SHORT ANSWER		
I	'm (am)	working	I	'm not (am not)	working	Am	I	working?	Yes No	I	am 'm not
You We They	're (are)	working	You We They	aren't (are not)	working	Are	you we they	working?	Yes No	you we they	are aren't
He She It	's (is)	working	He She It	isn't (is not)	working	Is	he she it	working?	Yes No	he she it	is isn't

We use the continuous tenses with **action verbs**.

We do not usually use them with **state verbs** (want, believe, know, taste, prefer, understand, belong, like, suppose, agree, etc). For **state verbs** we use the simple tenses.

USE

Activities happening now

EXAMPLES

*He's **having** lunch at the moment.
Where is the manager ? She's **speaking** to a customer.*

Temporary situations and activities

*Which hotel are they **staying** at?
He's **working** in London next week.*

Present trends

*People **are living** longer.
Jeans **are selling** well this year.*

Fixed future arrangements

*We're **leaving** at 11 a.m. on Thursday.
What time **are you going** to the party tonight ?*



Practice

A Are the underlined verbs right or wrong ? Correct the verbs that are wrong.

1. They usually go to work by bus.
2. The sun is rising in the east and is setting in the west
3. We really must be off. It's getting late.
4. 'Are you busy ? What do you do at the moment ?'
5. 'Hurry up ! We're going to be late.' ' I'm coming.'
6. 'Do you hear people talking ? I wonder what they talk about.'
7. Look ! Those boys try to break down the gate.
8. Where are you playing tennis this weekend ?
9. His flight is leaving at 7 am. every morning.

B Present simple or Present continuous ? Put the verb into the correct form.

1. She doesn't have a car at the moment, so she *goes / is going* to work by bus.
2. I'm afraid I can't help you just now. I *cook / am cooking* dinner.
3. Every time I drive to the new shopping centre, I *get / am getting* lost.
4. I'd like your opinion on my new computer. *Do you think / are you thinking* it's a good one ?
5. Which new projects *do you work on / are you working on* currently ?
6. She *looks / is looking* for a new flat. She *stays / is staying* with her brother until she finds one.
7. 'Do you *listen / are you listening* to this programme on the radio ?' 'No, you can turn it off. It's boring !'
8. Are you hungry ? *Do you want / Are you wanting* something to eat ?
9. She used to drink a lot of fruit juice, but now she *prefers / is preferring* mineral water.

Mark out of 20