

Lesson one : Present continuous tense and present simple

We are describing what Jack is doing at the moment of speaking.

-Jack **is watching** TV, he **is not playing** the guitar.

But Jack **has** a guitar. He **often plays** it and he **plays** very well.

-Jack plays the guitar, but he is not playing the guitar now.

-Is he playing the guitar? No, he isn't (present continuous)

-Does he play the guitar? Yes, he does (present simple)

I'm doing

Past	Now	Future
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-Please be quiet. **I'm working** (not I work)

-Tom **is having** a shower at the moment (not Tom has)

-Take an umbrella with you. It's raining

-You can turn off the television. I'm not watching it.

-Why are you under the table? What are you doing?

N.B. we form the present continuous in the following way: the auxiliary to be in the present simple+the infinitive+ing (to work= she **is working**)

- The present continuous is used to describe the action at the time of speaking.

Eg: Helen is eating her lunch **now**.

Present simple (I do)= in general, all the time or sometimes.

I do

Past	Now	Future
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- I work every day from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

- Tom has a shower every morning.

- It rains a lot in winter.

- I don't watch TV very often.
- What do you usually do at weekends?
- We don't use these verbs in the present continuous (Iam-ing):

Like want know understand remember prefer
need mean believe forget

-Use only the present simple with these verbs (I want/ do you like? Etc)

-I'm tired. I want to go home (not I'm wanting)

-Do you know that girl? Yes, but I don't remember her name.

-I don't understand. What do you mean?

N.B. when have means 'possess' etc., don't use the continuous. Eg: We're enjoying our holiday. We have a nice room in the hotel (not we are having).

*we're enjoying our holiday. We're having a great time. (here there is action).

- The present continuous of 'be' is **I'm being**. Eg: I can't understand whe he's being so selfish. He isn't usually like that. (being selfish means behaving selfishly at the moment).

-But, he never thinks about other people. He is very selfish (he is generally selfish by nature).

Look and feel

- You can use the present simple or continuous when you say how somebody looks or feels now:

- You look well today or You are looking well today.
- How do you feel now? Or How are you feeling now?
- I usually feel tired in the morning.

Consolidate :

I	Am (not)	-ing
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He, she, it	Is (not)	-ing
We, you, they	Are (not)	-ing

-We're **having** dinner.

-You're **not listening** to me.

Practice

A- Complete the sentences. Use these verbs: Build, cook, go, have, stand, stay, swim, work:

- 1- Please be quiet. I
- 2- Where's John? He's in the kitchen. He.....
- 3- You.....on my foot. Oh! I'm sorry.
- 4- Look! Somebody.....in the river
- 5- We're here on holiday. Weat the central Hotel.
- 6- Where's Sue? She.....a shower.
- 7- They.....a new hotel in the city centre at the moment.
- 8- I.....now. Goodbye.

B- What's happening now? Write true sentences

- 1- I/wash/my hair
- 2- It/snow.....
- 3- I/sit/on a chair.....
- 4- I/eat.....
- 5- It/rain.....
- 6- I/learn/English.....
- 7- I/listen/to music.....

Key answers

A- 1-I'm working

2-He's eating

3-You're standing

4-is swimming

5-We're staying

6-She's having

7-Are building

8-Am going

B- 1-I'm not washing my hair.

2-It's snowing

3-I'm sitting on a chair

4-I'm eating my lunch

5-It's raining today

6-I'm learning English at Lingua School

7-I'm listening to music and dancing