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| **Present Continuous Versus Simple Present** | | | |
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| **FORM:** | **Simple Present: subject + base verb + (“-s” or “-es”)** Present Continuous: subject + be (am, is, are) + verb + “-ing” | |  |
| **USE:** | The Simple Present and the Present Continuous have different uses. | | |
| **THE SIMPLE PRESENT is used:** | **THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS is used:** | |
| * to talk about habits and repeated actions.   e.g. *Susan usually* ***cleans*** *her room on*  *Saturdays.* | * to talk about actions in progress now.   e.g. *Susan* ***is cleaning*** *her room now.* | |
| * to talk about things that are true in general.   e.g. *Working parents* ***bring*** *their*  *children to daycare.* | * for actions that are temporary, not habitual.   e.g. *Simon* ***is bringing*** *his kids to*  *daycare today.* | |
| * when the verb **“have”** means possess or own something. It is a non-action verb.   e.g*. I* ***have*** *two children.*  *She* ***has*** *a new car.* | * when the verb **“have”** is an action verb, it does not mean possess.   e.g. *I* ***am having*** *my test on Friday.*  *She* ***is having*** *lunch in the park*. | |
| * with certain time expressions:   always rarely  often never  usually every day  sometimes once a week  seldom on the weekends | * with certain time expressions:   right now now  today at the moment  this week this evening  this year this month  these days these months | |

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| *Use either the SIMPLE PRESENT or the PRESENT CONTINUOUS of the verbs in parentheses.* |

1. Ruth (ask, usually)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a lot of questions in class, but today she (ask neg.)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_any.

2. Please don’t make so much noise. My sick grandmother (rest) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Cindy can’t come to the phone right now because she (take) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a bath.

4. Cindy (do) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her homework after school every day.

5. After 3 months in the hospital, Bob is glad that he (jog) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

again today.

6. Every evening the mother (sing)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_her child to sleep

after she (read)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_him a bed-time story.

7. A: “What (make)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?”

B: “I (bake)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_an apple pie for the picnic tomorrow.”

8. A: “The leaves (change)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_color now.

B: They’re beautiful! This is the first time I’ve seen so many pretty colours. The trees (change, not)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in my country. It is too hot.

9. (you, put, always)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the cat outside when you

leave for the day?

10. I (sleep, usually)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_until 7:00 a.m. every morning.

Then, I (have)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_a shower and (eat) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ breakfast.

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| *Check the sentence (a) or (b) that is closest in meaning to the first.* |

1. Karen’s getting really good grades this semester.
   1. Her grades are always good.
   2. Her grades are better than they were last semester.
2. Look! Nicola’s wearing a dress today.
   1. Nicola seldom wears dresses.
   2. Nicola probably wore a dress yesterday, too.
3. Vince and Irene live in New London.
   1. They expect to move very soon.
   2. New London is their home.
4. I’m taking the bus to school this week.
   1. I’m sitting on the bus right now.
   2. I don’t usually take the bus.
5. A: Where’s David?

B: He’s asleep on the couch.

* 1. He’s sleeping on the couch.
  2. He sleeps on the couch.

1. A: How’s Maria these days?

B: Busy. She’s learning how to dance the tango.

* 1. Maria has a new hobby.
  2. She’s dancing right now.