

Present Simple vs Present Continuous – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 36



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences

Put the verb in brackets into the present simple or the present continuous.

Example: She ___ (read) a book right now. → is reading

1. Listen! The baby _____ (cry).
2. My dad _____ (work) in a hospital.
3. Look! It _____ (snow) outside.
4. We usually _____ (have) breakfast at seven.
5. Tom _____ (not/watch) TV at the moment. He's doing his homework.
6. _____ (you/like) chocolate?
7. Sara _____ (not/eat) meat. She's a vegetarian.
8. What _____ (you/do) right now?
9. Water _____ (boil) at 100 degrees.

Exercise 2: Use the words in the box

Complete each sentence with a verb form from the box. Use each form once. There are two extra forms.

WORD BOX

reads is cooking are playing play doesn't know is raining goes isn't knowing cooks

10. My sister _____ a book every week.
11. Mum _____ dinner in the kitchen now.
12. The children _____ football in the garden at the moment.
13. I _____ tennis every Saturday.
14. Leo _____ the answer. Can you help him?
15. Take an umbrella. It _____.
16. Anna _____ to the gym twice a week.

Exercise 3: Negatives and questions

Rewrite each sentence as instructed in brackets.

Example: He is sleeping. (question) → Is he sleeping?

17. She plays the piano. (negative)

18. They are watching a film. (question)

19. You live near the school. (question)

20. I am wearing a jacket today. (negative)

21. Ben works on Saturdays. (question)

22. We are studying English now. (negative)

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

Example: He play football every day. → He plays football every day.

23. I am going to school by bus every day.

24. Look! The dog runs after the cat.

25. She don't like coffee.

26. Are you understand the question?

27. I'm knowing your brother.

28. My friends is waiting for me outside.

29. Does he usually walks to work?

30. Kate is wanting a new phone.

Exercise 5: Put the words in order

Put the words in the correct order to make sentences or questions.

Example: he / is / sleeping / now → He is sleeping now.

31. is / Maria / now / a / letter / writing

32. you / do / where / live

33. never / coffee / drinks / my mum

34. doing / what / they / are

35. at the moment / not / I / am / working

36. does / start / when / the film

Answer key – Present Simple vs Present Continuous – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences

1. **is crying**

Listen! shows the action is happening now, so we use the present continuous.

2. **works**

This is a permanent fact, so we use the present simple with -s for he.

3. **is snowing**

Look! shows something happening now, so we use the present continuous.

4. **have**

Usually shows a habit, so we use the present simple.

5. **isn't watching**

At the moment needs the present continuous negative: is not + -ing.

6. **Do you like**

Like is a state verb, so we use a present simple question with do.

7. **doesn't eat**

This is a general fact about Sara, so we use doesn't + base verb.

8. **are you doing**

Right now shows an action in progress, so we use are + you + -ing.

9. **boils**

Scientific facts use the present simple.

Exercise 2: Use the words in the box

10. **reads**

Every week shows a regular habit, so we use the present simple.

11. **is cooking**

Now shows an action in progress, so we use the present continuous.

12. **are playing**

At the moment needs the present continuous; children is plural, so we use are.

13. **play**

Every Saturday shows a routine, so we use the present simple.

14. **doesn't know**

Know is a state verb, so it is not used in the continuous form.

15. **is raining**

The rain is happening now, so we use the present continuous.

16. **goes**

Twice a week shows a habit; with she/he we add -es to go.

Exercise 3: Negatives and questions

17. **She doesn't play the piano.**

Present simple negative with she: doesn't + base verb (no -s).

18. **Are they watching a film?**

In present continuous questions, are goes before the subject.

19. **Do you live near the school?**

Present simple questions with you use do + subject + base verb.

20. **I'm not wearing a jacket today.**

Present continuous negative: am not + -ing.

21. **Does Ben work on Saturdays?**

With he/she we use does, and the main verb loses the -s.

22. **We aren't studying English now.**

Present continuous negative: are not + -ing.

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

23. I go to school by bus every day.

Every day shows a routine, so we need the present simple.

24. Look! The dog is running after the cat.

Look! shows an action happening now, so we need the present continuous.

25. She doesn't like coffee.

With she/he/it, the negative is doesn't, not don't.

26. Do you understand the question?

Understand is a state verb, so the question uses do, not are.

27. I know your brother.

Know is a state verb and is not used in the continuous form.

28. My friends are waiting for me outside.

Friends is plural, so we use are.

29. Does he usually walk to work?

After does, we use the base verb without -s.

30. Kate wants a new phone.

Want is a state verb, so we use the present simple.

Exercise 5: Put the words in order

31. Maria is writing a letter now.

Present continuous: subject + is + -ing + object.

32. Where do you live?

Question word + do + subject + base verb.

33. My mum never drinks coffee.

Adverbs of frequency like never go before the main verb.

34. What are they doing?

Question word + are + subject + -ing.

35. I am not working at the moment.

Present continuous negative: subject + am not + -ing.

36. When does the film start?

Question word + does + subject + base verb.

Notes for teachers: Start by reviewing signal words: usually, every day and never for the present simple; now, at the moment and Look!/Listen! for the present continuous. Common mistakes include forgetting the -s in the third person, using don't instead of doesn't, and using state verbs like know, like and want in the continuous form. As a follow-up, ask students to write five sentences about their usual routine and five about what people around them are doing right now.