Present continuous and present simple
(I am doing and I do)

1

Complete the webpage with the present continuous form of the verbs from the box.

hold  offer  organise  perform  play  sing

What’s on in Hampton this week?

The Arena
The world famous Company of Knights (1) is performing a breathtaking horseback show from Wednesday to Saturday at 7.30 pm.

City Hall
Elisa Gonzalez (2) is singing songs from Brazil, Argentina and Mexico on Friday at 7 pm.

Hampton Sports Stadium
Hampton Juniors football team (3) is playing against a team from Germany at 11 am on Sunday.

The Pavilion
Local jewellers (4) are offering their Summer Sale this Sunday from 10 am to 2 pm.

Shoppers’ Paradise (off Main Street)
All shoe shops (5) are offering the chance to buy one pair get one pair free every day this week!

Hampton College of Further Education
The education department (6) is holding an open day on Thursday – discover their range of full- and part-time courses.

2

Complete the sentences with the present continuous form of the verbs.

A JENNY: Hi, Zoe! (1) Are you waiting (you / wait) for the London train?
ZOE: No, (2) I am meeting (I / meet) my mother off the train from Bristol.

B MANDY: (3) Is this music (this music / disturb) you?
JAMES: No, not at all. (4) I am enjoying (I / enjoy) it.

C TOM: (5) Is anyone (anyone / use) this room today?
ELLIE: (6) We are having (We / have) a meeting here after lunch, but it’s free now.

D NINA: Why (7) are those people (those people / shout)?
FINN: (8) They are demonstrating (They / demonstrate) against the new taxes.

E BEN: (9) Are you (you / apply) for university?
CRAIG: (10) I am thinking (I / think) about it, but I haven’t decided yet.

F AVA: (11) Jane (Jane / leave) work early today?
KATE: Yes, (12) she is flying (she / fly) to Brussels at five o’clock.

G JOSH: (13) Are you (you / come) to the party on Thursday?
MAX: No, (14) I am working (I / work) late, unfortunately.
Complete the description using the correct present continuous form of the verbs in the box. Sometimes you need the negative. Use some of the verbs more than once.

enjoy  hang  lie  look  stay  sit  turn  wear

The Bellelli Family by Edgar Degas

This is a painting of two sisters, Giulia and Giovanna, with their mother, Laura, and father, Gennaro. Gennaro (1) is sitting in an armchair by a desk. He (2) towards his family. Laura and Giulia (3) at something behind Gennaro, but Giovanna (4) out of the picture towards the artist. Giulia (5) on a chair with one foot on the floor. Both the girls look rather serious. Perhaps they (6) very still for the artist and they (7) that! The girls and their mother all have black dresses and the girls (8) white aprons, but their mother (9) an apron. In the room we can see a picture which (10) on the wall behind Laura and some papers which (11) on the desk.

Choose a picture or photograph you like and describe what is happening in it.
Present continuous and present simple

Complete the text with the present simple form of the verbs.

What is an eclipse?

A solar eclipse 1) **happens** (happen) when the moon 2) **(pass)** in front of the sun. This only 3) **(take) place when there is a new moon.**

It 4) **(last) for up to 7.5 minutes.**

During a solar eclipse, it is dark. The birds 5) **(not sing), and animals** 6) **(keep) still and quiet.**

A solar eclipse 7) **(not happen) very often, and most people** 8) **(enjoy) seeing one. However, it’s important not to look straight at the sun. If you 9) **(not remember) this, you can damage your eyes.**

A lunar eclipse 10) **(occur) when the earth’s shadow** 11) **(fall) on the moon. The moon 12) **(look) dim until it 13) **(come) out from the shadow.**

Complete the questions with the present simple form of the verbs.

1. **Which day of the week do you go to your yoga class?**
   **On Thursdays.**

2. **What time does the bank shut?**
   **I think it’s five o’clock on weekdays.**

3. **(Your flat) have air conditioning?**
   **Yes, we really need it in summer.**

4. **How often do you see your brother?**
   **Nearly every weekend.**

5. **Why don’t you drive to work every day?**
   **Because the traffic’s so bad, it’s quicker by bike.**

6. **Where does your sister keep her phone charger?**
   **On that shelf beside the TV.**

7. **Do you not want a cup of coffee? You look tired.**
   **No, I’m OK thanks.**

8. **How many hours do you work in a week?**
   **About thirty-five, usually.**

9. **How long do you spend at the gym?**
   **At least one hour most evenings.**

10. **Does the souvenir shop sell stamps?**
    **No, only postcards.**
Hi Kai

(1) I’m having / I have a great time here in Canada. My MSc course (2) isn’t starting / doesn’t start until next month, at the beginning of September, so (3) I’m making / I make use of the time to get to know the place. (4) I’m staying / I stay near Vancouver with Ryan, my Canadian cousin. He and and his brother Liam (5) are owning / own a software business.

In the evenings (6) we’re driving / we drive into the city and go clubbing or see a movie. (7) I’m making / I make a lot of new friends. (8) I’m thinking / I think my pronunciation is much better already, and (9) I’m understanding / I understand almost everything. On weekdays (10) I’m helping / I help Liam. At the moment (11) he’s working / he works on their new website and (12) he’s needing / he needs help with it. (13) I’m learning / I learn some useful stuff about how people (14) are doing / do business in this country.

(15) Do you come / Are you coming to see me? (16) I’m spending / I spend the winter holiday skiing with Ryan and Liam. (17) They’re wanting / They want to meet you and there’s plenty of space. You must bring lots of warm clothes because (18) it’s getting / it gets really cold here in the winter. Let me know as soon as (19) you’re deciding / you decide. And tell me what (20) you’re doing / you do these days.

See you in December, I hope.
Pedro

Choose the correct alternative.

1. My best friend
2. My boss
3. My boyfriend
4. My classmates
5. My family
6. My father
7. My sister
8. My wife
9. None of my friends
10. Our children
11. Our next-door neighbour
12. Our teacher
13. Several of my colleagues

Choose words from the box and make sentences ending as shown. Use verbs in the present continuous or present simple and any other words you need.

1. My boyfriend is studying for his final exams this term.
2. My sister doesn’t go to the cinema very often.
3. My classmates aren’t talking much right now.
4. Our teacher is giving us a test every week.
5. My best friend is going to Britain at the moment.
6. My brother is working at weekends this year.
7. My family is having a picnic this term.
8. Our teacher is giving us a test at the moment.
9. My best friend is going to Britain right now.
Put the verbs into the correct form: present continuous or present simple.

Tony Hunt, a journalist, is interviewing Leila Markham, an environmental scientist.

TONY: So tell me, Leila, why is it important to save the rainforests?
LEILA: There are so many reasons. One reason is that lots of the plants which (1) grow (grow) in the rainforest could be useful in medicine. We (2) not (know) all the plants, but there are tens of thousands of them. Chemists and doctors (3) try (to try) to discover their secrets before they are destroyed.

TONY: I see. What other reasons are there?
LEILA: Well, scientists (4) believe (to believe) that the rainforests (5) have (to have) an influence on the world’s weather systems and this (6) helps (to help) to slow down global warming. But, unfortunately, these days the forests (7) disappear (to disappear) at a terrifying rate and we (8) not (to do) enough to save them.

TONY: What is the main danger of global warming, in your opinion?
LEILA: The polar regions (9) consist (to consist) of millions of tons of ice. If they (10) melt (to melt), the level of the sea will rise and cause terrible floods. Most scientists (11) agree (to agree) that global temperatures (12) rise (to rise). We must do everything we can to prevent global warming, and that includes preserving the rainforests!

TONY: Thank you, Leila, and good luck in your campaign.
LEILA: Thank you.

Tick (✓) the sentences which are correct. In some pairs, one sentence is correct. In other pairs, both sentences are correct.

1. What do you think of my hair? ✓ What are you thinking of my hair?
2. You look great today! You’re looking great today!
3. Do you enjoy your meal? Are you enjoying your meal?
4. I think of selling my car. I’m thinking of selling my car.
5. Where do you live? Where are you living?
6. I don’t believe his story. I’m not believing his story.
7. The students seem tired today. The students are seeming tired today.
8. He weighs 80 kilos. He’s weighing 80 kilos.
9. How often do you play tennis? How often are you playing tennis?
10. My brother looks for a new job. My brother is looking for a new job.
Past simple and past continuous
(I did and I was doing)

11 Last week John went to Scotland on a business trip. Read his diary for last week. Then complete the report he sent to his boss using the past simple.

6 MARCH
Thursday
am
• fly to Edinburgh
• have lunch with Scottish sales team

pm
• visit two factories
• discuss last series of adverts with marketing manager (not keen on them)

7 MARCH
Friday
am
• drive to Glasgow
• meet architects – look at new office plans

pm
• go to see new office building
• invite architects to dinner (not free)
• catch overnight train to London

I (1) flew to Edinburgh on Thursday morning and (2) had lunch with the Scottish sales team. Then I (3) visited our two factories there and (4) discussed our last series of adverts with the marketing manager. He (5) wasn’t keen on them, unfortunately.

On Friday morning I (6) drove to Glasgow and (7) met the architects. We (8) looked at the new office plans and in the afternoon we (9) went to see the new office building. I (10) invited the architects to dinner, but they (11) weren’t free.

I (12) caught the overnight train back to London.

12 Think about what you did one day last week. Complete the diary below. Then write a report using the past simple.

Day:
Name:
On __________ morning

From: John Hutchings
To: Simon Sato
Subject: Visit to Scotland 6 & 7 March