



Hi,  
We're in Greece. The hotel is beautiful. The sun's shining and I'm sitting by the swimming pool. Jack's swimming in the pool and the kids are playing football on the beach. We love it here.  
How are things at the office?  
Are you all working hard?  
All the best,  
Sarah



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## Presentation

### Present simple

Use the present simple to talk about ...

- situations that do not change:  
*Sarah lives in Birmingham.*
- routines:  
*She travels to work by bus.*

### State verbs

You don't normally use these verbs in the continuous form: *be, like, love, hate, want.*

### Present continuous: key spelling rules

- Verbs ending consonant + vowel + consonant: *sit* → *sitting*, *swim* → *swimming* ...
- Verbs ending consonant + vowel + -y: *stay* → *staying*, *play* → *playing* ...

### Present continuous

Use the present continuous to talk about ...

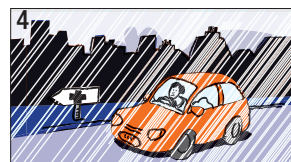
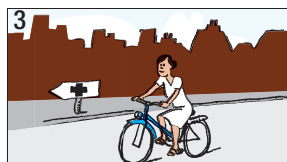
- temporary situations:  
*She's staying in a hotel in Greece.*
- actions now:  
*Right now she isn't working. She's on holiday.*

**Key vocabulary** **Verbs:** boil, cycle, do (your homework), drive, eat, freeze, hate, learn, like, live, love, make (friends), play, sit, smoke, start, stay, study, swim, take (the train), turn off, want, watch (TV), work (hard), write (to somebody)

## Exercises

**1 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences. Use the present simple or present continuous of the verbs.**

- 1 Helen works (work) in the hospital from Monday to Friday.
- 2 She isn't working (not work) at the moment. It's Saturday and she is reading (read) a book in the garden.
- 3 She usually cycles (cycle) to work.
- 4 Today she isn't cycling (not cycle) to work because it is raining (rain). She is driving (drive) her car to the hospital.



**2 Choose the correct forms.**

- 1 Tigers live are living in India.
- 2 Usually I drive / 'm driving to the office, but this week I take / 'm taking the train.
- 3 Oh, no! It rains / 's raining again.
- 4 No, thank you. I don't smoke / 'm not smoking.
- 5 A: Do you like / Are you liking opera?  
B: Yes, I do. / am.
- 6 A: What do you do / are you doing?  
B: I write / 'm writing to my parents.
- 7 A: Is the tea ready?  
B: Almost. The water boils / 's boiling.
- 8 Water freezes / 's freezing at 0°C.
- 9 We always go / 're always going to the cinema at the weekend.
- 10 It rains / 's raining a lot in Scotland.
- 11 I speak / 'm speaking German but not very well.
- 12 Ssh! I watch / 'm watching a film.
- 13 I have / 'm having lunch with my grandparents every Sunday.
- 14 Ari can't come out. She does / 's doing her homework.
- 15 Turn off the TV. Nobody watches / 's watching it.
- 16 Do you want / Are you wanting tea or coffee?

**3 Ⓜ Marcia is studying Italian in Rome. Complete her email to her parents. Use the present simple or present continuous of the verbs. Then listen and check.**

New Message

Hi,

Rome is fantastic. I <sup>1</sup> 'm having (have) a great time and I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) a lot of Italian. School <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (start) at 09:30 every day. We <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (study) for four hours, then we <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) lunch. The classes <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) excellent. I <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) lunch right now. I <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) in a beautiful café in Piazza di Spagna. I <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) pasta and I <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (do) my homework. The other students <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) very nice – I <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (make) a lot of new friends.

See you soon,

Marcia