

## Tense Review - Present Simple & Present Continuous

Remember this:

- **Tenses affect verbs.**
- **Every sentence in English has a verb.**
- **Tenses are everywhere!**
- **We always let people know *when* something happens.**

So.....it makes sense to work hard on the tenses!

Common errors:

- Use present continuous when present simple is appropriate
- Use present perfect when past simple is appropriate
- Use present simple when past simple is appropriate

Exercise 1: Which of these sentences are correct?

1. I am visiting my uncle every day because he is sick.
2. The train leaves at 2pm.
3. I am staying at the big hotel at the end of the pier.
4. I am eating in that restaurant quite often.
5. I am learning to drive at the moment.
6. I do some work in the garden every weekend.
7. I practise playing the violin tonight.
8. I buy a new phone once a year.
9. I'm meeting that lawyer to discuss my case.
10. I'm loving fried chicken.

Review

Tense Form	Tense Function	Example
<b>Present Simple</b>  <b>infinitive without 'to'</b>  <b>want</b> <b>go</b> <b>eat</b> <b>sleep</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>to make statements / to state facts</b></li> </ul>	The sun <b>is</b> hot. It <b>is</b> very far away from the Earth. The Earth <b>goes</b> round the sun.  The sun <b>goes</b> round the Earth. Excuse me? That is not true.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>routines/habits</b></li> </ul>	<p>All adverbs of frequency can go before the verb :</p> <p>I sometimes go I never go I hardly ever go I occasionally eat I often visit</p> <p>But be careful with changing the order of the sentences - not all adverbs of frequency can move!</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>scheduled events</b></li> </ul>	<p>The train <b>arrives</b> at 08:54.</p> <p>The guests arrive at 12:00</p> <p>The ceremony begins at 13:00</p> <p>The feast begins at 14:00</p> <p>The band starts at 14:30</p>
<p><b>Present Continuous</b> <b>be + verb + ing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ongoing action in the present</li> </ul> <p><b>live &amp; work</b> (Meaning doesn't change in simple &amp; continuous)</p> <p><b>Other verbs have a more strict relationship with the tense:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ongoing temporary situation</li> <li>• arrangements- in the future</li> </ul>	<p><b>We are learning.</b> Paul <b>is teaching</b> while he <b>is sitting</b> on a chair. I <b>am feeling</b> better. We <b>are discussing</b> present tenses.</p> <p>I am living in Manchester. I live in Manchester.</p> <p>I work as a nurse. I am working as a nurse.</p> <p>We <b>are staying</b> in that hotel. I <b>am preparing</b> for OET. I <b>am learning</b> to drive.</p> <p>I <b>am seeing</b> my parents this weekend.</p>

### Exercise 2: Quick Review

1. My boss called earlier. I .....her at 14:00 to discuss the new strategy.
2. I ..... about moving to Swindon but I'm not really sure I should do it.
3. I ..... fast food. I am very healthy.
4. I injured my foot about 3 months ago, so I ..... rehab work now.
5. I ..... where the tube station is. Can you help me out?
6. That café opposite the office is really good. I ..... most lunch times.
7. I ..... a lot of yoghurts in my weekly shop. My children ..... them!
8. I can't..... to her at the moment because I ..... the end of a film!
9. Where ..... she now? Tell her I .....!
10. I ..... two trees in my garden.

### Exercise 3: Quick Review

In a café you hear a person talking:

eat out	go	watch	stay(x2)	meet (x2)	live	think
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I **1)** .....in Manchester. It is an interesting place. There is a lot to do here! On Mondays I **2)**..... swimming. Every Tuesday I **3)** ..... my mum for lunch. On Wednesdays and Thursdays I usually **4)** ..... at home and watch TV. Well, it's not really my home. At the moment I **5)** ..... with my parents. On Friday I **6)** .....friends in the city and normally we **7)** .....at a restaurant or **8)** ..... a movie at the cinema. It is starting to get a bit boring though! I **9)** ..... about changing my routine.

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## Answers

**1, 4, 7 are incorrect. The rest are fine (all corrected below)**

1. I visit my uncle every day because he is sick.
2. The train leaves at 2pm.
3. I'm staying at the big hotel at the end of the pier.
4. I eat in that restaurant quite often.
5. I'm learning to drive at the moment.
6. I do some work in the garden every weekend.
7. I am practising playing the violin tonight.
8. I buy a new phone once a year.
9. I'm meeting a lawyer to discuss my case.
10. I love fried chicken.

## Exercise 2: Quick review

1. My mum called to arrange lunch. She **is coming/arriving / We are meeting** at 14:00.
2. I **thinking of/about** joining a gym but I'm not really sure I should do it.
3. I **rarely /never visit** my uncle's house in Australia. It's too far away!
4. I am **feeling / feel** wonderful. That shower was amazing!
5. My wife kicked me out, so I **am staying** with my parents at the moment.
6. I can't **follow/understand** these instructions. Can you help me out?
7. That café opposite the office is really good. I **eat there** most lunch times.
8. I **buy** a lot of bananas. My children **love** them!
9. I can't **speak/talk** to her at the moment because I **am watching** the end of a film!
10. Where **is** she now? Tell her I **am waiting**!

## Exercise 3: Quick Review

**In a café you hear a person talking:**

eat out	go	watch	stay(x2)	meet (x2)	live	think
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I **1) am living / live** in Manchester. It is an interesting place. There is a lot to do here! On Mondays I **2) go** swimming. Every Tuesday I **3) meet** my mum for lunch. On Wednesdays and Thursdays I usually **4) stay** at home and watch TV. Well, it's not really my home. At the moment I **5) am staying** with my parents. On Friday I **6) meet** friends in the city and normally we **7) eat out** at a restaurant or **8) watch** a movie at the cinema. It is starting to get a bit boring though! I **9) am thinking** about changing my routine