

Present Simple and Present Continuous

Ex #1: Put the verbs into the correct form

*Example: Americans **vote** in the presidential election every four years. (vote)*

1. Chris _____ to the gym every Monday and Thursday. (not/go)
2. How many languages _____ she _____ ? (speak)
3. The grocery store _____ at seven o'clock in the morning and _____ at ten o'clock in the evening. (open/close)
4. If you _____ olive oil above one hundred degrees, it _____. (heat/burn)
5. What time _____ your flight _____ next week? (take off)
6. While my family _____ here, we'll tour around the province. (be)
7. I _____ the word 'exasperated'. What _____ it _____ ? (not understand/mean)
8. The Richardson's _____ any religion; they _____ atheists. (follow/be)
9. I _____ in ghosts; although, one of my friends claims that she has seen one! (not / believe/claim)

The people at my office

Try to think of an appropriate verb and tense.

There maybe more than one correct answer.



I work in a large office with about thirty people, most of whom I _____ quite well. We _____ most of the day together, we so have all become friends. In fact, most of my colleagues are so interesting, that I _____ to write a book about them!

Take Helen Watson, for example. Helen _____ the accounts department. At the moment, she _____ Tom Ballantine, one of the sales representatives, and they _____ very happy together. But everyone - except helen apparently - _____ that Keith _____ a thing for Susan Porter. But I _____ to know that Susan _____ Keith. Currently, Susan is an assistant to the manager of the company, so she _____ typically really busy running around doing whatever the boss _____. She _____ time for a relationship. Then, there's Ryan. Ryan is the office Prince Charming. You will usually _____ upstairs smoking. He _____ constantly _____ with a group of women and they all _____ to be completely in love with him! And, lastly.... there's me! I _____ in the communications department. My job is so boring, all I ever do is _____ the phone and _____ emails. Today, however, is the office Christmas party and so I _____ to set up the dance floor and get the food and drink ready!

2. Read the following paragraph. Underline all of the verbs in Present Simple. The first one has been done for you.

Right now, Alexia is asleep in bed and is probably dreaming about all the things that she has to do tomorrow! She is a very busy person, so she generally goes to bed quite early. She hardly ever stays up late, because she wakes up at 5am to go to the gym. Alex has a boyfriend called Pete, he works in construction. Alexia and Pete have a good relationship. They go on dates every week and talk a lot about the future. Alexia is from a big family and has three brothers and two sisters, although most of them live in different cities in Canada. Every Thursday, Alexia participates in a reading club, where each member selects a new book each month and then everyone discusses the book. She is 27 years old, she weighs 140 pounds and her height is 5' 7.

3. For each answer in the table below, write an information question about the paragraph you have read. There may be more than one correct way to ask the question.

	Question	Answer
e.g	What is her name?	Alexia
1		all the things that she has to do tomorrow!
2		quite early
3		at 5am
4		Pete
5		every week
6		three brothers and two sisters
7		Every Thursday
8		27
9		140 pounds

10		5' 7
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4. Write a small paragraph comparing your life in your home city and the city you live in now.

Try to use adverbs such as: always, never, sometimes, usually, typically, hardly ever, rarely etc.

5. Look at the information in each table. Write sentences about each situation with the correct tense (the time expressions will help you), in either **Present Simple** or **Present Continuous**. You could put the time expression at the beginning or end of the sentences.

For a more challenging writing exercise, join your sentences to make small paragraphs.

You may need to add prepositions where necessary.

Name	Info	Sentences
Josie	Every week: go / yoga. Today: study / a big exam. Tuesday mornings: sleep in. Next Friday: visit / one of her cousins.	e.g Every week, Josie goes to yoga. or Josie goes to yoga every week.

Mia	In general: believe / people / be kind. Usually: travel / Mexico / at Spring Break. Currently: read / a book Stephen King. Every week: babysit / or her sister.	
Adam	Every other week: stay / his dad's house. Now: check / Facebook This year: take / a year off / travel. Next month: do / a presentation / school.	
Trisha	For the time being: work / jewellery store. Rarely: see / her friends / university In June: start / a new job / New York. After work: have / a drink / some colleagues Hardly ever: remember / to call her mom.	
Sergio	On Saturdays: skype / his parents in Peru. Often: feel / homesick Later: see / his girlfriend / after / finish / class. Never: hang out / friends	
Kate	Most of the time: be / optimistic sometimes: / be pessimistic right now: deal / stress tonight: take / a bubble bath to relax.	