

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

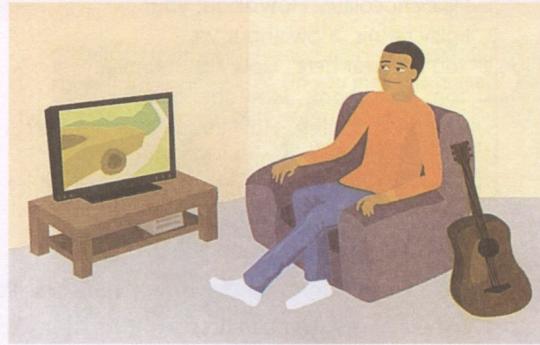
Jack is watching television.

He is *not* playing the guitar.

But Jack has a guitar.

He plays it a lot, and he plays very well.

Jack **plays** the guitar,
but he **is not playing** the guitar now.



Is he playing the guitar? **No, he isn't.** (present continuous)
Does he play the guitar? **Yes, he does.** (simple present)

Present continuous (I am doing) = now, at the time of speaking:

I'm doing

past

now

future

- Please be quiet. I'm **working**. (not I work)
- Tom **is taking** a shower at the moment. (not Tom takes)
- Take an umbrella with you. It's **raining**.
- You can turn off the TV. I'm **not watching** it.
- Why are you under the table? What **are you doing**?

Simple present (I do) = in general, all the time, or sometimes:

I do

past

now

future

- I **work** every day from 9:00 to 5:30.
- Tom **takes** a shower every morning.
- It **rains** a lot there in the winter.
- I **don't watch** TV very often.
- What **do** you usually **do** on weekends?

We do *not* use these verbs in the **present continuous (I am -ing)**:

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------------|----------|
| like | want | know | understand | remember |
| prefer | need | mean | believe | forget |

Use only the **simple present** with these verbs (I **want** / **do** you **like**?, etc.):

- I'm tired. I **want** to go home. (not I'm wanting)
- "Do you **know** that girl?" "Yes, but I **don't remember** her name."
- I **don't understand**. What **do** you **mean**?

Exercises

8.1 Answer the questions about the pictures.



Does he take photographs? Yes, he does.
 Is he taking a photograph? No, he isn't.
 What is he doing? He's taking a bath.



Is she driving a bus? Yes, she does.
 Does she drive a bus? No, she isn't.
 What is she doing? She's playing the piano.



Does he wash windows? Yes, he does.
 Is he washing a window? No, he isn't.
 What is he doing? He's washing a window.



Are they teaching? Yes, they do.
 Do they teach? No, they don't.
 What do they do? They're teachers.

8.2 Complete the sentences with **am/is/are** or **do/don't/does/doesn't**.

- 1 Excuse me, do you speak English?
- 2 "Where's Kate?" "I know."
- 3 What's so funny? Why you laughing?
- 4 "What your sister do?" "She's a dentist."
- 5 It raining. I want to go out in the rain.
- 6 "Where you come from?" "Canada."
- 7 How much it cost to stay at this hotel? Is it expensive?
- 8 Steve is a good tennis player, but he play very often.

8.3 Put the verb in the **present continuous** (**I am doing**) or the **simple present** (**I do**).

- 1 Excuse me, do you speak (you/speak) English?
- 2 "Where's Tom?" " He's taking (he/take) a shower."
- 3 I don't watch (I/not/watch) TV very often.
- 4 Listen! Somebody (sing).
- 5 Sarah is tired. (she/want) to go home now.
- 6 How often (you/use) your car? Every day?
- 7 "Excuse me, but (you/sit) in my seat." "Oh, I'm sorry."
- 8 I'm sorry, (I/not/understand). Can you speak more slowly?
- 9 It's late. (I/go) home now.
- 10 What time (your father / finish) work every day?
- 11 You can turn off the radio. (I/not/listen) to it.
- 12 "Where's Eric?" "In the kitchen. (he/cook) something."
- 13 Josh (not/usually/drive) to work. He (usually/walk).
- 14 Sue (not/like) coffee. (she/prefer) tea.