

PRESENT SIMPLE OR PRESENT CONTINUOUS

A2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Choose between routines and temporary actions.

1. READ: A different journey

Read the conversation. Notice the bold verb forms.

Eva: Hi, Ben. I usually **see** you on the bus.

Ben: I **am walking** this week. The road near my house is closed.

Eva: Oh, I **walk** every day. It only takes ten minutes.

Ben: Lucky you. Where **are you going** now?

Eva: To the cafe. My sister **is waiting** for me there.

Ben: Enjoy it. I need to get back to work!

2. GRAMMAR: Regular or temporary?

Use the present simple for routines and facts; the continuous for now or temporary actions.

Use	Pattern	Example
Routine / fact	Present simple	She works in a bank.
Now / temporary	be + verb-ing	She's working at home today.
Some state verbs	Usually present simple	I like this cafe.

Clues: **usually** / **every day** often suggest a routine; **now** / **this week** can suggest a temporary action.

Questions: **Do you work here?** / **Are you working now?**

Usually say **I know** / **I like** / **I want**, not I'm knowing / liking / wanting.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct form. The example answer is bold: I **walk** / am walking every day.

1. She usually works / is working at home.
2. Look! The bus comes / is coming.
3. I know / am knowing the answer.
4. We study / are studying every Tuesday.
5. He cooks / is cooking right now.
6. I want / am wanting some water.
7. They stay / are staying with us this week.
8. Does / Is she work here?

Read each answer aloud. Check the subject, the noun or the clue.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: Working from home

Use the present simple or present continuous. Write the complete missing verb form.

Mia: You usually (1) _____ (work) in the office, don't you?

Dan: Yes, but I (2) _____ (work) at home this week.

Mia: Why?

Dan: The builders (3) _____ (paint) our office. It's very noisy.

Mia: What (4) _____ (you / do) now?

Dan: I (5) _____ (write) a report. I (6) _____ (need) some quiet!

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Correct the verb form.

Example: I am knowing her. **I know her.**

1. She is wanting a coffee.

2. Look! The children play outside.

3-4: Make questions about the underlined information. Example: I work at home. **Where do you work?**

3. Ben works in a shop.

4. They are making lunch.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three true sentences: your usual routine, something happening now and a temporary change.

Example: **I walk to class. I'm writing now. I'm working late this week.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

1. Ask about a routine: **Where do you usually study?**

2. Ask about this week: **Are you doing anything differently?**

Compare one usual activity with one temporary change.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: A different journey

Sample target language from the conversation:

Eva: Hi, Ben. I usually **see** you on the bus.

Ben: I **am walking** this week. The road near my house is closed.

Eva: Oh, I **walk** every day. It only takes ten minutes.

Ben: Lucky you. Where **are you going** now?

Eva: To the cafe. My sister **is waiting** for me there.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. works | 2. is coming |
| 3. know | 4. study |
| 5. is cooking | 6. want |
| 7. are staying | 8. Does |

B. COMPLETE: Working from home

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. work | 2. am working |
| 3. are painting | 4. are you doing |
| 5. am writing | 6. need |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. She wants a coffee.
2. Look! The children are playing outside.
3. Where does Ben work?
4. What are they doing?

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: I walk to class. I'm writing now. I'm working late this week.

Teacher note: Time expressions are clues, not automatic rules. Accept contractions. In C3-4, keep the tense and ask about the underlined information.