



# The Simple Present and the Present Continuous

## ► The Simple Present

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS			
SUBJECT		VERB OR VERB + -S/-ES	
I		<b>work</b>	on weekends.
She	usually	<b>works</b>	
They		<b>work</b>	

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS			
SUBJECT	DO/DOES + NOT	VERB	
I	<b>don't</b>	<b>sleep</b>	enough.
She	<b>doesn't</b>		
They	<b>don't</b>		

YES/NO QUESTIONS			
DO/DOES	SUBJECT	VERB	
<b>Do</b>	you	<b>work</b>	on weekends?
<b>Does</b>	she		
<b>Do</b>	they		

SHORT ANSWERS			
AFFIRMATIVE		NEGATIVE	
<b>Yes,</b>	I <b>do</b> .	<b>No,</b>	I <b>don't</b> .
	she <b>does</b> .		she <b>doesn't</b> .
	they <b>do</b> .		they <b>don't</b> .

## ► The Present Continuous

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS		
SUBJECT + BE	VERB + ING	
I'm	<b>working</b>	right now.
She's		
They're		

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS		
SUBJECT + BE + NOT	VERB + ING	
I'm not	sleeping	well.
She's not / She isn't		
They're not / They aren't		

YES/NO QUESTIONS			
BE	SUBJECT	VERB + ING	
<b>Are</b>	you	<b>working</b>	now?
<b>Is</b>	she		
<b>Are</b>	they		

SHORT ANSWERS			
AFFIRMATIVE		NEGATIVE	
<b>Yes,</b>	I <b>am</b> .	<b>No,</b>	I'm <b>not</b> .
	she <b>is</b> .		she's <b>not</b> / she <b>isn't</b> .
	they <b>are</b> .		they're <b>not</b> / they <b>aren't</b> .

## ► The Simple Present

INFORMATION QUESTIONS				
WH-WORD	DO/DOES	SUBJECT	VERB	
Why	do	you	work	late?
Where	does	she	live?	
What	do	they	think?	

WH-WORD			VERB + -S/-ES	
Who			works	late?
What			happens	now?

## ► The Present Continuous

INFORMATION QUESTIONS				
WH-WORD	BE	SUBJECT	VERB + ING	
Why	are	you	working	late?
Where	is	she	living?	
What	are	they	thinking?	

WH-WORD	IS		VERB + -S/-ES	
Who	is		working	late?
What	is		happening?	

### The Simple Present

- Affirmative statements can use *do* or *does*, but only for emphasis.

You're wrong. I **do** like her.

- See 1.4 and 1.5 for spelling and pronunciation rules for verbs ending in *-s* and *-es*.
- See 1.6 for contractions with *do*.

### The Present Continuous

- To combine present continuous sentences with *and*, use the subject and *am/is/are* only once.

You're **sitting** at your desk and **going** through paperwork.

- *Is not /are not* can be used instead of the contracted form for emphasis in negative short answers.

No, he **is not**. No, they **are not**.

- Stative verbs (verbs that do not express actions) are not usually used with the present continuous. The simple present is used instead.

I **own** a house.

**x** I'm owning a house. (INCORRECT)

- See 1.7 for spelling rules for verbs ending in *-ing*.
- See 1.8 for contractions with *be*.