

Module English

Second year

Present tenses

State verbs vs performative verbs

→State (stative) verbs can be defined as those that describe the following:

- thoughts and opinions
- feelings and emotions
- senses and perceptions
- possession and measurement

For example: Believe, Like, Know, Understand, Want, Prefer, Seem, Own, Have, and Contain

→Performative verbs are used to describe the action, which they perform.

For example: Accept, admit, agree, apologize, congratulate, declare, demand, deny, disagree, forbid, forgive, give up, guarantee, insist, invite, order, predict, promise, quit, resign, recommend, refuse, request, suggest, surrender, thank and warn

Stative verbs cannot be progressive and are only used with simple tenses only

Present simple

Root of the verb+ s/es with he she it

For a few verbs, the third-person singular ends with *es* instead of *s*. Typically, these are verbs whose root form ends in *o*, *ch*, *sh*, *th*, *ss*, *gh*, or *z*.

Present continuous

Subject + am/is/are + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence

Present simple vs present continuous

Present simple	Present continuous
Things which are always true: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water boils at 100 degrees.	Things which are happening at the moment of speaking: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The water is boiling now, so you can put in the pasta.
Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Julie lives in London	Temporary situations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Julie is living in Paris for a few months (usually she lives in London). Situations which are slowly changing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm getting better and better at speaking English
Habits or things we do regularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I drink coffee every morning	Temporary or new habits: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm drinking too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work. Annoying habits (usually with 'always'): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• My flatmate is always leaving the kitchen in a mess!

Future events which are part of a timetable: • My plane leaves at eight tonight. To talk about the future after certain words ('when' 'until' 'after' 'before' 'as soon as'): • I'll call you when I get home.	changeable future plans: • I'm meeting John after class today.
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PRESENT CONTINUOUS

* Actions in progress (happening) now

* Temporary situations

SIMPLE PRESENT

* Routines (things happen repeatedly)

* Permanent situations

Exercise

1. You (not / like) _____ chocolate.
2. She (not / study) _____ at the moment.
3. We often (go) _____ to the cinema.
4. He usually (not / do) _____ his homework.
5. They (not / eat) _____ rice every day.
6. We (not / study) _____ every night.
7. (You / like) _____ spicy food?
8. (She / go) _____ to Scotland often?
9. (He / eat) _____ now?
10. We (go) _____ to the cinema this weekend.

Answers

1. You don't like chocolate.
2. She isn't studying at the moment.
3. We often go to the cinema.
4. He doesn't usually do his homework.
5. They don't eat rice every day.
6. We don't study every night.
7. Do you like spicy food?
8. Does she go to Scotland often?
9. Is he eating now?
10. We are going to the cinema this weekend