

***Present Simple* – настоящее простое**



***Present Continuous* – настоящее длительное**



***Future Simple* – будущее простое**



Present Simple – настоящее простое

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I go	I don't go	Do I go ?
You go	You don't go	Do you go ?
He goes	He doesn't go	Does he go ?
She goes	She doesn't go	Does she go ?
It goes	It doesn't go	Does it go ?
We go	We don't go	Do we go ?
You go	You don't go	Do you go ?
They go	They don't go	Do they go ?

Permanent situations

The present simple is for actions and situations that are generally or permanently true:

*IBM **is** one of the largest computer companies in the world; it **manufactures** mainframes and PCs, and **sells** its products all over the world.*

Routines and frequency

We use the present simple to talk about routines and things we do regularly:

*I usually **get** to the showroom at about 8.00 and I **have** a quick look at my emails. The sales reps **arrive** at about 8.15 and we **open** at 8.30.*

Facts

We use the present simple to talk about scientific or other facts:

*Superconductors **are** materials that **conduct** electricity and **do not create** electrical resistance.*

Programmes and timetables

We use the present simple to talk about programmes and timetables. When we use the present simple like this, it can refer to the future:

*The fast train to London **leaves** at 7.39 and **gets** in to Paddington at 8.45. Then you **catch** the Heathrow Express to the airport – it **goes** every fifteen minutes.*

Present Continuous – настоящее длительное

POSITIVE

I am working
You are working
He is working
She is working
It is working
We are working
You are working
They are working

NEGATIVE

I am not working
You aren't working
He isn't working
She isn't working
It isn't working
We aren't working
You aren't working
They aren't working

QUESTION

Am I working?
Are you working?
Is he working?
Is she working?
Is it working?
Are we working?
Are you working?
Are they working?

Moment of speaking

The present continuous is used to talk about an activity taking place at the moment of speaking:

*I'm afraid Herr Seifert isn't available at the moment. He **is talking** to a customer on the other phone.*

Current projects

The present continuous is used to talk about actions or activities and current projects that are taking place over a period of time (even if they are not taking place precisely at the moment of speaking):

*Barton's is one of the largest local construction companies. At the moment we **are building** a new estate with 200 houses and we **are negotiating** with the council for the sale of development land in Boxley Wood.*

Temporary situations

The present continuous is used to indicate that an action or activity is temporary rather than permanent. Compare:

*Janet **organizes** our conferences and book launches.*

(The present simple is used because this is generally true.)

*Janet is away on maternity leave, so I **am organizing** the conferences and book launches.*

(The present continuous is used because this is only true for a limited time.)

Slow changes

The present continuous is used to describe current trends and slow changes that are taking place:

*The latest economic statistics from the European Central Bank show that both unemployment and inflation **are falling** in the Eurozone countries, and that the economy **is growing** at an annual rate of 2.6%.*

The following are examples comparing the present simple and present continuous:

Routine vs moment of speaking

- 1 Henry **works** for PDQ, a business delivery company. Every day he **collects and delivers** packages for local companies.
- 2 The man in the post room **is packing** some parcels. Henry **is waiting** in reception.

In 1, we are talking about something that Henry does as a routine.

In 2, we are talking about something that they are doing at the moment of speaking.

General activities vs current projects

- 1 I **work** for a firm of recruitment consultants. We **design** psychometric tests.
- 2 At the moment we'**re working** on new tests for the personnel department of a large oil company.

In 1, we are talking about a general activity.

In 2, we are talking about a specific current project.

Permanent vs temporary situations

- 1 Peter **deals** with enquiries about our car fleet sales.
- 2 I **am dealing** with enquiries about fleet sales while Peter is away on holiday.

In 1, this is permanently true.

In 2, this is a temporary situation.

Facts vs slow changes

- 1 *As a rule, cheap imports **lead** to greater competition.*
- 2 *Cheap imports **are leading** to the closure of a number of inefficient factories.*

In 1, we are making a statement about a general fact that is always true.

In 2, we are talking about a change that is taking place at the moment.

Stative verbs

There are a number of verbs which describe states rather than actions. They are not normally used in the continuous form. Common examples are:

Verbs of thinking: *believe, doubt, guess, imagine, know, realize, suppose, understand*

Verbs of the senses: *hear, smell, sound, taste, see*

Verbs of possession: *belong to, have (meaning: possess), own, possess*

Verbs of emotion: *dislike, hate, like, love, prefer, regret, want, wish*

Verbs of appearance: *appear, seem*

Others: *contain, depend on, include, involve, mean, measure, weigh, require*

These are usually found in the simple form because they do not refer to actions:

*I'm sorry, I **don't understand** what you mean.*

We do not say: * *I'm not understanding what you mean.*

EXERCISE 1

Routine vs moment of speaking

Decide if the speaker is talking about routine activities or activities going on at the moment of speaking. Put the verbs into the present simple or the present continuous. See the example.

An interview with Bill Cogges in the dairy business



Interviewer: ¹Do you usually organize (you/usually organize) the delivery of milk to the factory? ²..... (the farmers/bring) it here themselves?

Bill: No, ³..... (we/always collect) the milk ourselves, and the tankers ⁴..... (deliver) it to the pasteurization plant twice a day.

Interviewer: What sort of quality control procedures ⁵..... (you/have)?

Bill: As a rule we ⁶..... (test) samples of every consignment, and then the milk ⁷..... (pass) down insulated pipes to the bottling plant, which ⁸..... (operate) 24 hours a day. I'll show you round a bit later, but the production line

⁹..... (not work) at the moment because the employees ¹⁰..... (change) shifts.



EXERCISE 2

General activities vs current projects

Decide whether the verbs refer to general activities or current projects. Put the verbs into the present simple or present continuous. See the example.

We set up the company in 2002 with a grant from the local government.

We ¹ provide (provide) IT backup and support for a number of small and medium-sized businesses in the area.

We also ² (design) web sites for local companies, and we

³ (look) after them by doing regular maintenance, and so on.

When we ⁴ (get) a new customer, we always ⁵ (spend) a long time talking to them to find out their needs. At the moment we

⁶ (set up) a website

for a large local travel agency, and in fact our chief programmer is in charge of that project. She ⁷ (have) discussions with them to find out what sort of features they ⁸ (require).

EXERCISE 3

Permanent vs temporary situations

In the following exercise, decide whether these situations are permanent or temporary. Put the verbs into the present simple or present continuous. See the example.

- 1 He joined the company 25 years ago and he still *works* (work) for us.
- 2 We (not/send) out any orders this week because we're waiting for the new lists.
- 3 I (deal) with Mr Matsumi's clients this week because he's away.
- 4 Go down this road, turn right, and the road (lead) straight to the industrial estate.
- 5 Because of the Euro/Dollar exchange rate, EU exports (not/do) very well at the moment.
- 6 The stock market is risky because the price of shares (vary) according to economic conditions.
- 7 I (learn) French because I'm going to be based in the Paris office next year.
- 8 Hello. I'm Heinrich Brandt, I'm German, and I (come) from a small town near Munich.

***Future Simple* – будущее простое**

Positive	Negative	Question
I will help.	I will not help.	Will I help?
You will help.	You will not help.	Will you help?
We will help.	We will not help.	Will we help?
They will help.	They will not help.	Will they help?
He will help.	He will not help.	Will he help?
She will help.	She will not help.	Will she help?

Spontaneous decisions

We can use **will** (or the short form **'ll**) + bare infinitive to refer to the future when we make an instant or spontaneous decision to do something:

A: *I haven't seen the minutes of the last meeting yet.*

B: *Sorry – I'll email them to you now.*

We often use the **will** future after **I think** and **I don't think**:

A: *I don't think I'll stay on in Geneva after the conference.*

B: *Nor will I. I think I'll get a flight back home straight afterwards too.*

The negative of **will** is **won't** (**will not**):

I won't stay long. I've got a meeting at 2.15.

Common mistakes: We don't use **won't** after **I think**.

wrong: **I think I won't come to the conference.*

right: *I don't think I'll come to the conference.*

Predictions

We can use **will** to make predictions and to state facts that will be true in the future:

Over the next few years, there will be a massive increase in TV channels because of the growth in cable, broadband and satellite services.

Future time words

We use a present tense (not: **will*) to refer to the future with time words like: *if, when, before, as soon as, after, etc.*

I will contact you as soon as I get the information. (not: **will get*)

(See also Unit 19, Conditionals)

Offers, promises, requests

Will can also be used to ask if someone is willing to do something, to make requests, promises, and threats, and to offer help:

I'm afraid the line is busy. Will you hold? (asking if they are willing)

A: *Will you give me a hand with these boxes?* (making a request)

B: *Of course – I'll take the big one.* (offering help)

Don't worry about the meeting. I will support you. (making a promise)

The word *won't* can mean *is not willing to* or *is refusing to*:

There's something wrong with the printer. It won't print copies in reverse order.

Present Continuous and 'to be going to'

Present continuous – arrangements

The present continuous (see Unit 2) is often used to talk about appointments or things we have arranged to do in the future. We generally use it with a future time phrase:

*Are you **doing** anything this weekend?*

(Have you arranged to do anything?)

*Yes, I'm **playing** golf with Barry on Saturday.*

(I have arranged to play golf with him.)

We do not use the present continuous with stative verbs (see Unit 3).

Going to – decisions

We use the auxiliary *be* + *going to* + bare infinitive to talk about something we intend to do, or have already decided to do:

According to the papers, Richard Branson is going to buy a second island in the Caribbean.

Going to – predictions

We can also use *going to* for making firm predictions when there is some physical evidence that an event will take place:

Can you get some more paper for the printer? It's going to run out any minute.

In many cases, however, it is possible to predict future events using either *going to* or *will*. There is little difference in meaning, but *going to* usually suggests that the event will happen soon. Compare:

The present government will win the election (next year).

The present government is going to win the election (next week).

Will, present continuous, or going to?

The most important differences between the present continuous, *going to*, and *will* are as follows:

We use the present continuous for arrangements (except with stative verbs):

I'm having a meeting with the Export Manager on Thursday at 2.15.

We use *going to* for decisions and intentions:

I've made up my mind. I'm going to buy a BMW 730i.

We use *going to* for firm predictions:

It's already 28°C. It's going to be very hot today.

We use *will* for spontaneous decisions:

I wonder if Peter is back from his marketing trip? I'll give him a ring.

We use *will* for promises, offers, and requests:

I'll give you a hand with those boxes if you like.

We use *will* for general predictions:

In the twenty first century computers will play a vital role in everyone's life.

(For details of when the present simple is used to refer to the future, see Unit 1.)

Two managers of an engineering company are trying to arrange a meeting. Put the verbs in brackets into the present continuous.

Peter: Amelie, Peter here. Could we arrange a time tomorrow to talk about the new freight schedules? Say, er ... 9.15?

Amelie: I'm a bit busy first thing because I ¹'m *having* (have) a meeting with one of the new drivers. But would 10 o'clock suit you?

Peter: I'm afraid not. I ² (go) over to the factory, and after that I ³ (see) Mr Henderson for lunch.

Amelie: What time ⁴ (you/come) back?

Peter: At about 2.30 I suppose, but I ⁵ (not/do) anything special after that. Would you be free then?

Amelie: No, I don't think so. I ⁶ (see) a sales rep from Mercedes from 2.00 until about 3.30. So shall we say 3.45?

Peter: Fine. I think Janet ought to be there too. She ⁷ (come) along to lunch with me and Henderson tomorrow, so I can tell her about it then.

Decisions and intentions

Re-write these sentences using *going to*.

1 I have decided to accept the job.

I'm going to accept the job.

2 You have heard my complaint. What do you intend to do about it?

.....

3 We have decided to go ahead with clinical trials of the new drug.

.....

4 They have decided not to go abroad this year.

.....

5 This is where we are planning to build the new offices.

.....

Не забывайте употреблять *Present Simple* вместо *Future Simple* в придаточных предложениях времени и условия после союзов:

if, when, as soon as, before, after, till/until.

1. When you (to cross) the park, you will see the hospital.
2. If she (to be) in St. Petersburg now, she will meet you at the railway station.
3. If you (not to hurry), you will miss the train.
4. When my friend (to come) to St. Petersburg, we shall go to the Russian Museum.
5. Don't forget to pay for your dinner before you (to leave) the canteen.
6. I shall be able to translate this article if you (to give) me a dictionary.
7. You will have to work hard at home if you (to miss) the lesson.
8. Where will you go when you (to come) to London?