Present Simple and Present Continuous

Present Simple

We use to talk about:

- Things are happen generally
- Things are generally true

Ex.: I usually come back from school at 4 p.m.

Present Continuous

We use to talk about:

 Things happening now or around now

Ex.: My brother is swimming in the sea. (now)

Verbs not used in the continuous

Some verbs (called state verbs) are not usually used in a Continuous tense:

- 1. Verbs about knowing or not knowing: believe, doubt, imagine, know, remember, realise, suppose, understand
- 2. Verbs about appearance: appear, resemble, seem
- **3.** Verbs about liking and not liking: *hate*, *like*, *love*, *prefer*
- **4.** Verbs about possession: belong, need, own, possess, want, wish
- **5.** Verbs about the senses: hear, see, smell, taste
- **6.** Some other verbs: be, come from, contain, include

Present Simple

We use to talk about:

- Timetables
- Feelings and emotions

Ex.: The train leaves at 6 a.m. I love skiing.

Present Continuous

We use to talk about:

- Something that is changing
- Future arrangements

Ex.: Mary is getting more and more beautiful.

He is playing tennis this afternoon.

Present Continuous

We use Pr.Cont. with always to express annoyance or criticism.

Ex.: She is always losing her keys.

Present Simple

Usually, often,
always, every ...,
in the morning/...,
at night/the
weekend, on
Fridays.

Present Continuous

Now, at the moment, at present, these days, nowadays, still, today, tonight, always*