

# PRESENT SIMPLE VS CONTINUOUS – MEANING

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## PRESENT SIMPLE

### Habits. Regular actions or situations

- ➔ I **wash** my hair every day.
- ➔ He usually **gets up** very early.

### Facts, permanent situations or states

- ➔ I **have** one brother. He **lives** in Paris.
- ➔ Water **boils** at 100 degrees.

### With stative verbs\*

- ➔ Give me the money. I **need** it now.
- ➔ What happened? You **look** sad.

### Future timetabled events

- ➔ The train **leaves** at 4.
- ➔ The exams **start** next Monday.

**SIGNAL WORDS:** *Always, never, often, sometimes, every day, once a month, etc.*

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS

### Actions in progress 'now'/'around now'

- ➔ I can't talk. I'm **brushing** my teeth.
- ➔ I'm **reading** a new book. I love it!

### Temporary actions or situations

- ➔ I'm **going** to work by bus this week.
- ➔ I'm **living** with my cousins until I find an apartment.

### Changing or developing situations

- ➔ The climate **is changing** very quickly.
- ➔ Your English **is improving**.

### Future actions that are decided

- ➔ I'm **meeting** John this evening.
- ➔ We **are leaving** tomorrow at 7 a.m.

**SIGNAL WORDS:** *Now, at the moment, these days, this week/month, etc.*

\***Verbs of the senses:** hear, see, smell, look, seem, sound. **Opinion:** believe, consider, like, love, hate, prefer, think, etc. **Possession:** have, own, belong, etc. **Also:** agree, be, depend, need, mean, remember, realise, recognise, seem, want, etc.

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