

**LIMBA ENGLEZA**  
**CLASA a XIII a SEMESTRUL al II lea**

**PRESENT SIMPLE VS. PRESENT CONTINUOUS**

**Present continuous**

To talk about things happening at the moment, use the present continuous.

Eg. Jim is watching television at the moment.

**Present simple**

To talk about habits and routines use the present simple.

- Things we do often, every day, every week, etc.
- Things that always happen.

Eg: I arrive at school at 8.30. The first lesson starts at 8.45.

The lesson finishes at 9.30.

Jim is watching TV. Joe lives in New York.

New York is his home.

He lives there all the time.

We are living near the station at the moment.

We want to move to another house soon.

Verbs usually used with the present simple:

**cost** This bike costs £200. like Anna likes rap music.

**know** Do you know the answer? understand I don't understand this.

**believe** Do you believe me?

Some verbs have one meaning in the simple form, but a different meaning in the continuous form: Do you have a bike? = Do you own a bike? (in general)

I'm having a great time! = It's a great party! (at the moment)

I think this film is great! = I like this film a lot. (in general)

Quiet! I'm thinking. = I'm doing a difficult exercise. (at the moment)

**Exercises**

Choose the most suitable sentence or question.

- a) 1 I wash my hair.  
2 I'm washing my hair. ✓b)
- b) 1 Do you know the answer?  
2 Are you knowing the answer?
- c) 1 Do you wait for the school bus? You're in the wrong place!  
2 Are you waiting for the school bus? You're in the wrong place!
- d) 1 That bike costs £350.  
2 That bike is costing £350.
- e) 1 Do you understand?  
2 Are you understanding?
- f) 1 I do my homework.  
2 I'm doing my homework.

2 Complete each sentence. Use the words in brackets. Use present simple or present continuous.

- a) Richard (always, get up) ..... always gets up before 7.00.
- b) Hurry up! The bus (wait) ..... for us!
- c) Where (we, go) ..... ? This is the wrong road!
- d) My friends (not believe) ..... my story.
- e) Please be quiet! I (read) ..... a very interesting book.
- f) (like, Susan) ..... horror films?

3. Choose the most suitable word or phrase for each space.

- a) 'Someone B for you outside.' 'Who is it?'  
A) waits B) is waiting C) waiting
- b) 'What ..... of this book?' 'I think it's fantastic!'  
A) do you think B) is you think C) you do think
- c) ..... in ghosts?  
A) Are you believe B) Are you believing C) Do you believe
- d) Kate is busy. She ..... for a test.  
A) is study B) is studying C) is studies
- e) ..... a great time at the moment!  
A) We are have B) We're have C) We're having
- f) Tina usually ..... at 7.00.  
A) get up B) is getting up C) gets up

### Practice GRAMMAR 6 PRESENT CONTINUOUS AND PRESENT SIMPLE

Correct each sentence or question.

- a) I doesn't likes this film. don't like .....
- b) What do you wants? .....
- c) Jim walk sometimes to school. ....
- d) When the lesson begins? .....
- e) I don't gets up early on Saturdays. ....
- f) Tina not like computer games. ....
- g) Figen watchs television every night. ....

2 Put one word in each space. Contractions are one word.

- a) What ..... do you usually eat for lunch?
- b) George and Terry ..... speak Portuguese. They speak English.
- c) It's 9.30 and the children ..... sitting at their desks.
- d) Ken ..... like tea. In fact, he hates it.
- e) When it rains, ..... you take an umbrella?
- f) What ..... it say on the board? I can't see from here.

3 Choose the most suitable word or phrase for each space.

- a) What time C to bed?  
A) usually do you go B) do usually you go C) do you usually go
- b) Every day, Frank ..... to work.  
A) goes B) is going C) go
- c) Stop it! ..... it!  
A) I'm not liking B) I don't like C) I not like
- d) What ..... ? Is it an orange?

- A) you are eating B) are you eating C) do you eat
- e) Yumiko feels ill, so she ..... basketball.
- A) doesn't play B) isn't play C) isn't playing
- f) Pay attention, Philip! ..... ?
- A) Do you listen B) Is it listening C) Are you listening
- g) Excuse me. .... to Manchester?
- A) This road goes B) Does this road go C) Is this road go

Change each sentence. Use the words in brackets.

- a) Jo goes to school by bus. (usually) Jo usually goes to school by bus.  
.....
- b) I am working hard. (not) .....
- c) c) Sara likes sport. (not) .....
- d) d) I get up at 6.30. (always) .....
- e) e) We speak German. (not) .....
- f) f) Pierre goes to the beach. (often) .....
- g) g) George drinks beer. (never) .....
- h) h) We're having a good time. (not) .....

### 5 Present simple or present continuous?

Change the verb if it is wrong.

- a) Are you having a motorbike? Do you have a motorbike?  
.....
- b) I'm staying in a hotel near the sea.  
.....
- c) I'd like to buy this coat. How much is it costing?  
.....
- d) What you doing?  
.....
- e) I'm usually getting up at 6.00.  
.....
- f) This book is difficult. I'm not understanding it.  
.....
- g) I watch a lot of TV every night.  
.....
- h) Excuse me. Are you knowing the way to the museum?  
.....

Think about grammar!

Are the sentences true or false?

- a) When you talk about a habit or a routine, you use the present simple.
- b) The present continuous is for actions that do not finish.
- c) When the subject of the sentence is he, she or it, add -s or -es.

## PAST SIMPLE VS. PAST CONTINUOUS

- **The past simple is used:** For an action that started and ended in the past.

\*I saw a ghost last Friday.

- For a repeated action in the past.

\*When I was young, I watched lots of television every day after school.\*

\*I always gave my mother flowers on her birthday.

\*(We could also say, I used to watch lots of television.)

- For stative verbs, which are verbs that do not express an action, but a state of mind or being, e.g. have (own), be, think (believe), know, dislike, need, owe, understand, wish.

\*He had a small cottage in the woods.

\*He wasn't afraid of ghosts.

Regular past simple tense verbs end in -ed.

\*I talked to my uncle yesterday.

\*I phoned my girlfriend this morning.

Irregular past simple tense verbs do not end in -ed.

\*You need to learn irregular past tense verbs.

\*I felt sick yesterday morning so I went to the doctor.

### **The past continuous tense is used:**

- When talking about TWO actions in the past; one continues for a period, and the other starts and ends (past simple).

\*While I was talking on the phone, someone stole my car.

\*I was making breakfast when the cat knocked over the milk carton, so I burnt the toast. These sentences usually use while or when.

- To talk about TWO actions in the past, both happening over a period.

\*I was working on my computer and my children were watching television.

- To talk about a TEMPORARY activity taking place over a limited time.

The past continuous tense is was / were + the present participle.

\*I was living in Indooroopilly when it happened.

\*I was staying at my friend's house while my parents were touring Italy. (The present participle is the base of a verb + ing i.e. walk walking).

### Activity 1

Choose which verb tense (simple past or past continuous) fits better.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ - I didn't hear you come in.

a) was sleeping b) slept

2. I \_\_\_\_\_ to see her twice, but she wasn't home.

a) was coming b) came

3. What \_\_\_\_\_? I was watching TV.

a) did you do b) were you doing

4. Robin Hood was a character who \_\_\_\_\_ from the rich and gave to the poor.

a) stole b) was stealing

5. Hey, did you talk to her? Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ to her

a) was talking b) talked

6. I \_\_\_\_\_ home very late last night.  
a) came b) was coming
7. How long \_\_\_\_\_ the flu?  
a) did you have b) were you having
8. \_\_\_\_\_ a good time in Brazil? Yes, I had a blast!  
a) Were you having b) Did you have
9. We \_\_\_\_\_ breakfast when she walked into the room.  
a) had b) were having
10. Last month I decided to buy a new car, and today I finally \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
a) bought b) was buying

### Activity

2 Read the story and answer the following questions.

#### A DISASTROUS DINNER

Last Friday, Mrs. Anderson planned to have a delicious dinner. She bought a T-bone steak and some cream and apples for an apple pie. When she came home from the shops she put her shopping on the table. While she was setting the table, her two pets sat underneath it and watched her. Then she went to the kitchen to make the pastry for the pie. She was a little forgetful so she didn't realize the steak, cream and apples were still on the table. While she was making the pastry, the dog jumped on a chair and looked longingly at the steak. At last it took the steak in its mouth and jumped off the chair, just as Mrs. Anderson was coming back into the dining room. Mrs. Anderson screamed, but the dog ran into the garden. She ran after the dog. While she was chasing the dog, the cat jumped on the table and started drinking the cream. Mrs. Anderson didn't manage to catch the dog, and she came back into the dining room. When she saw the cat, she shrieked, and the cat got such a fright that it jumped a meter into the air, and leapt out the window. Mrs. Anderson threw her broom at the cat, but she missed, and broke the window. At the same time she overbalanced and put her hand in the cream, spilling it all over the tablecloth. Poor Mrs. Anderson - she had no dinner, only a dirty tablecloth and a broken window. Glossary: set the table - put knives and forks, plates, salt etc. on the table., underneath - under it., longingly - e.g. the dog wanted it but knew it couldn't have it., shriek - louder than scream., get a fright - suddenly (not the same as be frightened)., overbalance - to lose your balance and fall.

Answer these questions about the story. Answer in complete sentences.

1. What did Mrs. Anderson plan?
2. Why did she buy cream and apples?
3. When did her pets watch her?
4. Where did she leave the steak?
5. When did the dog jump on the chair?
6. How did the dog look at the steak?
7. When did the dog jump off the chair?
8. Where did the dog go?
9. What was she doing when the cat jumped on the table?
10. What did Mrs. Anderson do when she saw the cat?

## Gradele de comparatie ale adjectivelor in engleza

In limba engleza, ca de altfel in oricare limba, exista 3 grade de comparatie:

- gradul pozitiv
- gradul comparativ
- gradul superlativ

### A - Comparatia cu *-er*, *-est*

#### 1) adjectivale monosilabice (formate dintr-o silaba)

clean	cleaner	cleanest
new	newer	newest
cheap	cheaper	cheapest

#### 2) adjectivale plurisilabice (formate din mai multe silabe)

##### a) adjectivale format din 2 silabe terminate in y:

dirty	dirtier	dirtiest
easy	easier	easiest
happy	happier	happiest
pretty	prettier	prettiest

##### b) adjectivale format din 2 silabe terminate in -er

clever	cleverer	cleverest
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##### c) adjectivale format din 2 silabe terminate in -le

simple	simpler	simplest
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##### d) adjectivale format din 2 silabe terminate in -ow

narrow	narrower	narrowest
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**B - Comparatia adjectivelor facuta cu *more - most* (pentru majoritatea adjectivelor formate din mai mult de 2 silabe)**

Exemplu:

*difficult - more difficult - (the) most difficult*

**C - Adjectivele neregulate**

good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
much	more	most
many	more	most
little	less	least
little	smaller	smallest

**D - Adjective speciale**

Unele adjective pot avea 2 forme cand formeaza gradele de comparatie:

common	commoner / more common	commonest / most common
likely	likelier / more likely	likeliest / most likely
pleasant	pleasanter / more pleasant	pleasantest / most pleasant
polite	politer / more polite	politest / most polite
simple	simpler / more simple	simplest / most simple
stupid	stupider / more stupid	stupidest / most stupid
subtle	subtler / more subtle	subtlest
sure	surer / more sure	surest / most sure

## Exercise A

Complete the comparative and superlative forms of the following adjectives/ adverbs.

Adjective/ Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
e.g. high	higher	highest
1. loud		
2. large		
3. thin		
4. heavy		
5. quiet		
6. quietly		
7. intelligently		
8. dependent		
9. good/well		
10. difficult		

## Exercise B

Choose the correct option for each of the following sentences.

e.g. He worked more efficiently than I did. (efficiently, more efficiently, most efficiently)

- Her promotion was the \_\_\_\_\_ moment of her life. (proud, prouder, proudest)
- Hawaii is \_\_\_\_\_ from Hong Kong than Japan. (far, farther, farthest)
- This ring is too \_\_\_\_\_ for me. (small, smaller, smallest)
- It is \_\_\_\_\_ to ask for help than solve the problem by yourself. (easy, easier, easiest)
- Grace's work is \_\_\_\_\_, but Joan's is \_\_\_\_\_. (good, better, best)
- August is \_\_\_\_\_ than any other month. (hot, hotter, hottest)
- Do you support his \_\_\_\_\_ proposal? (late, later, latest)
- Prevention is \_\_\_\_\_ than cure. (good, better, best)
- He may be the \_\_\_\_\_ man in Hong Kong. (rich, richer, richest)
- This pair of glasses is as \_\_\_\_\_ as that pair. (fashionable, more fashionable, most fashionable)



## Exercise C

Fill in each blank with the correct form – adjective/ adverb, comparative or superlative.

e.g. The manager is the most powerful man here. (powerful)

1. Iron is \_\_\_\_\_ than other metals. (useful)
2. My English teacher is as \_\_\_\_\_ as Andy Lau. (handsome)
3. His Chinese is getting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (bad)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ he gets, the \_\_\_\_\_ he becomes. (old, wise)
5. Ann does not swim so \_\_\_\_\_ as her coach claims. (quickly)
6. Which is \_\_\_\_\_, grammar or vocabulary? (important)
1. Staying at home is \_\_\_\_\_ than going on holiday abroad. (comfortable)
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ money you spend, the \_\_\_\_\_ you can save. (little, much)
3. The new job is the \_\_\_\_\_ one that I have had. (challenging)
4. This mini-bus driver is much \_\_\_\_\_ than any other driver. (kind)

## Exercise D

There is one mistake in each sentence. Underline the mistakes and correct them.

‘X’: extra word; ‘^’: missing word; ‘\_\_\_’: wrong word

e.g. Tommy is the most(X) cleverest boy in the class. ( X )

Tommy is (^ the) cleverest boy in the class. ( ^ )

Tommy is the clever (cleverest) boy in the class. ( \_\_\_ )

1. This is cheaper of the two pens. ( ^ )
2. He is speaking more slowly and more slowly. ( X )
3. Ms Lee is very shorter than her daughter. ( \_\_\_ )
4. The weather of Hong Kong is different from that of Canada’s. ( \_\_\_ )
5. Mary is much more nervous Jane. ( ^ )
6. Her face turned more as white as a sheet when she heard what he said. ( X )
7. Police in Sydney are investigating the death of a younger German tourist. ( \_\_\_ )
8. The more you smoke, more dangerous it is to your health. ( ^ )
9. To be frank, this was the most easiest test in this term. ( X )
10. She is the best singer of the two, but she is not the best in Hong Kong. ( \_\_\_ )