

Present Simple and Continuous Questions

Practice forming and asking questions.

1. Warm up

A. Read the verbs to your partner. Your partner should respond with a simple sentence.

e.g. A eat
B I eat sushi.

eat read go study watch
play ride listen practice do



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio

B. Switch roles and practice again. Use your imagination and think of different objects.

2. What do you do?

A. Review the following about the present simple tense and auxiliary verb 'do'.

1. English speakers use the present simple tense to talk about facts, habits, and routines.

	Question word(s)	Do	Subject	Verb	Prepositional phrase
a.	What	do	you	eat	for breakfast?
b.	Where	do	you	go	on weekends?

2. Change the auxiliary verb **do** to **did** to ask about the past.

What time	did	you	come	to class?
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B. Use the verbs in Part 1A to ask your partner questions about their daily routine. Take notes.

e.g. A What do you do on Sundays?
B I relax on Sundays.

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- The weekend

C. Share what you learned about your partner to the class.

3. What are you doing?

A. Review the following about the present continuous form.

Use the present continuous form (be + verb-ing) to talk about or ask about something happening now. English speakers often use 'now' when asking present continuous questions because they understand the questions asks about now.

	Question word(s)	Be	Subject	Verb + ing
1.	What	are	you	wearing?
2.	Where	is	he	going?
3.		I	am	wearing a suit.

B. Read the sentences and write the name of the people above the photos.

Nicky is wearing headphones.

Becky is taking photos.

Derek and Samantha are sitting on the grass.

Melanie is delivering food.

Rebecca and Tom are walking their dog.

Kate and John are camping.

1. _____

3. _____

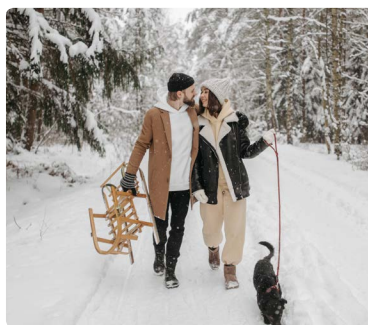
5. _____



2. _____

4. _____

6. _____



C. Take turns describing what the people in the pictures are doing and wearing etc.

D. Ask and answer questions about what the people in the pictures are doing and wearing etc.

Present Simple and Continuous Questions



Level: Elementary: A2
Pre-Intermediate: A2+

Updated: Oct 21, 2022

Language: Function: Asking and answering questions. Talking about daily life.
Forms: Continuous forms. Future forms. Modal and auxiliary verbs. Past tense. Present tense.

Teaching time: 60 minutes.

Overview: There are four types of questions: open questions using Wh-words, choice questions, closed or yes/no questions, and tag questions. Students practice and build confidence forming and asking Wh questions in the present simple tense as well as the present continuous form.

1. WARM UP

- A. In pairs, students read the verbs to their partners. Partners should respond with a suitable object to match the verb in a sentence. Demonstrate with a confident student if necessary. Encourage students to answer quickly and not spend too much time considering their responses.
- B. Students change roles and practice again. Encourage students to think of different objects and days of the week or weekend.

2. WHAT DO YOU DO?

- A. In pairs or as a class, students review the information about the present simple tense. English speakers use the present simple tense to talk about facts, habits, and routines. Review forming 'Wh' questions or using the auxiliary verb do in questions with students if necessary. This is a great time to answer any questions students have and discuss this question pattern in detail.
- B. In pairs, students take turns asking 'Wh' questions with verbs from Part 1A (or any others) and take notes. Students change roles and practice again. Encourage students to be creative with their questions and answers. This can be funny and interesting.
- C. Students can share what they learned about their partner to the class.

3. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

- A. In pairs or as a class, students review the information about the present continuous form. Explain that the present continuous form is typically used to talk about activities/actions happening now. It can also be used to ask or talk about future activities if a future time is included. Answer any questions students have and discuss this question pattern in detail.
- B. Individually, students match the sentences to the pictures and write the name(s) above each.
- Kate and John are camping.
 - Becky is taking photos.
 - Derek and Samantha are sitting on the grass.
 - Rebecca and Tom are walking their dog.
 - Melanie is delivering food.
 - Nicky is wearing headphones.
- C. In pairs, students take turns describing what the people are doing in the pictures. Insist students use the present continuous form. You might choose to write some example verbs on the board to help students think of ways to describe the pictures:
e.g. camp, play, wear, stand, smile, use, walk, carry, ride, deliver,

have.

Encourage students to be creative with their answers. This can be funny and interesting. Answers will vary.

- Kate and John are camping.
John is playing the guitar
John is wearing a blue shirt and blue jeans.
Kate with watching John.
Kate is smiling.
 - Becky is taking photos.
She is standing on a bridge.
She is wearing a black, leather jacket.
She is taking a photo of a tree.
 - Derek and Samantha are sitting on the grass.
They are having a picnic.
Derek is reading a book.
Derek is wearing a black shirt.
Samantha is drinking tea.
Samantha is wearing a large hat.
 - Rebecca and Tom are walking their dog.
Tom is carrying a sled.
They are wearing warm clothes.
It is snowing.
 - Melanie is delivering food.
She is working for Uber Eats.
She is riding a bicycle.
She is wearing a red shirt and black pants.
 - Nicky is wearing headphones.
She is laying on the grass.
She is listening to music.
She is using a smart phone.
- D. In pairs, students take turns asking about the people in the pictures using the present continuous form. Questions will vary.
- What is he/she wearing?
 - What is he/she doing?
 - Where is she standing?
 - What is he playing?
 - What is she listening to?
 - What is she riding?
 - What are they doing?