

## Simple present/Present continuous

Here are some more ways we use the simple present:

- 1 To give instructions/directions  
First, you **boil** some water and then you **add** the noodles and cook them for three minutes.  
When you **exit** the MTR station, **cross** King's Road and **go** two blocks down.
- 2 To make promises  
I **promise** to be very careful with your digital camera.  
I **swear** never to let you down.
- 3 To tell stories (for immediacy)  
Then she **goes** to the door and **opens** it and the monster **pops out!**  
She **finishes** her homework and then the phone **rings**.

Here are some more ways we use the present continuous:

- 1 To talk about ongoing changes  
You **are getting** fatter and fatter.  
He **is becoming** a responsible young man.
- 2 To talk about repeated actions  
That boy **is kicking** the back of my chair.  
The cat **is scratching** that sofa to pieces.
- 3 To talk about background events in a story  
Then she goes to the door and opens it and the monster **is standing** there!  
She **is doing** her homework and the phone rings.

Here are some differences in how we use the simple present and the present continuous:

Simple present	Present continuous
For permanent situations She <b>lives</b> in Quarry Bay.	For temporary situations She <b>is staying</b> in the Kowloon Hotel.
For repeated actions not connected to the moment of speaking She <b>takes</b> dancing lessons on Monday evenings.	For repeated actions connected to the moment of speaking She <b>is taking</b> dancing lessons now but before she took Putonghua lessons.
For future events in an itinerary We <b>arrive</b> in Shanghai at 2.30 p.m.	For planned future events We <b>are going</b> to Shanghai next week.
For illnesses/physical states I <b>have</b> a cold./My head <b>aches</b> .	For physical states only My head <b>is aching</b> .
For preferences/opinions I <b>love</b> pizza.	For feelings we are experiencing now I <b>am enjoying</b> every bite of this delicious pizza.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use the simple present or the present continuous tense. (\_\_\_\_\_/21 marks)

- 1 My brother \_\_\_\_\_ (like) this CD very much.
- 2 He \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) in China this summer.
- 3 We \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to lunch now. Would you like to join us?
- 4 We always \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) Grandma on Sundays.
- 5 In this photo, we \_\_\_\_\_ (play) volleyball on the beach.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis every day.
- 7 My father can't come to the phone now. He \_\_\_\_\_ (take) a shower.
- 8 My father \_\_\_\_\_ (work) as an accountant in a big company.
- 9 I think this pen \_\_\_\_\_ (cost) HK\$8.
- 10 I can't play online games now. My brother \_\_\_\_\_ (use) the computer to do his homework.
- 11 A: \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) your homework now?  
B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12 This photo was taken when I was three. My father \_\_\_\_\_ (carry) me on his shoulders.
- 13 People \_\_\_\_\_ always \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) new mobile phones.
- 14 Can you see Anna? She \_\_\_\_\_ (stand) at the bus stop.
- 15 \_\_\_\_\_ you still \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV?
- 16 A: \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Ocean Park on Sunday?  
B: No, they \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17 She often \_\_\_\_\_ (miss) class because of illness.
- 18 A: \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (like) Kelly Chan's songs?  
B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_, but my brother \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use the simple present or the present continuous tense. (\_\_\_\_\_/21 marks)

- 1 My brother likes (like) this CD very much.
- 2 He is travelling (travel) in China this summer.
- 3 We are going (go) to lunch now. Would you like to join us?
- 4 We always visit (visit) Grandma on Sundays.
- 5 In this photo, we are playing (play) volleyball on the beach.
- 6 I play (play) tennis every day.
- 7 My father can't come to the phone now. He is taking (take) a shower.
- 8 My father works (work) as an accountant in a big company.
- 9 I think this pen costs (cost) HK\$8.
- 10 I can't play online games now. My brother is using (use) the computer to do his homework.
- 11 A: Are you doing (do) your homework now?  
B: Yes, I am.
- 12 This photo was taken when I was three. My father is carrying (carry) me on his shoulders.
- 13 People are always buying (buy) new mobile phones.
- 14 Can you see Anna? She is standing (stand) at the bus stop.
- 15 Are you still watching (watch) TV?
- 16 A: Are they going (go) to Ocean Park on Sunday?  
B: No, they aren't/are not.
- 17 She often misses (miss) class because of illness.
- 18 A: Do you like (like) Kelly Chan's songs?  
B: Yes, I do, but my brother doesn't/does not.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in the simple present or present continuous tense. You can use some of the verbs from the box more than once. (\_\_\_\_\_/21 marks)

- 1 My brother \_\_\_\_\_ this CD very much.
- 2 He \_\_\_\_\_ in China this summer.
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- 16 A: \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ to Ocean Park on Sunday?  
B: No, they \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17 She often \_\_\_\_\_ class because of illness.
- 18 A: \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ Kelly Chan's songs?  
B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_, but my brother \_\_\_\_\_.

buy	stand
carry	take
cost	travel
do	use
go	visit
like	watch
miss	work
play	

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- |       |        |
|-------|--------|
| buy   | stand  |
| carry | take   |
| cost  | travel |
| do    | use    |
| go    | visit  |
| like  | watch  |
| miss  | work   |
| play  |        |
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B: Yes, I do, but my brother doesn't/does not.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Decide which of the choices below would best complete the article if inserted in the blanks. Circle the appropriate letters. (\_\_\_\_\_/15 marks)

## Too Much Fast Food?

According to a recent survey, Hong Kong consumers are (1) more money on convenience foods since the economic downturn. Because companies are trying to make do with fewer staff, employees are (2) harder than ever before. More women (3) joining the workforce as well. They (4) less time to prepare nutritious home-cooked meals for their families. Instead, families (5) out or (6) convenience foods, such as frozen pizzas and instant noodles. These foods (7) more fat, salt and sugar than home-cooked meals. Experts say that eating too much of them (8) the risk of serious health problems, including diabetes and heart disease.

However, the trend towards convenience foods (9) benefitting some business sectors. Supermarkets are (10) to the higher demand for quick, easy-to-serve meals by increasing their selection of convenience and pre-packaged foods. These products often (11) for higher prices than fresh food. Restaurants also (12) from the trend: most Hong Kong people now (13) out at least once a day.

Is convenience food just a fad or is home-cooked food (14) a thing of the past?  
How (15) this trend affecting our health?

1 A spending  
B spends  
C spent

6 A bought  
B buys  
C buy

11 A sells  
B sell  
C selling

2 A work  
B works  
C working

7 A containing  
B contains  
C contain

12 A profit  
B profiting  
C profits

3 A is  
B are  
C be

8 A increase  
B increasing  
C increases

13 A eat  
B ate  
C were eating

4 A has  
B have  
C had

9 A is  
B are  
C be


14 A become  
B became  
C becoming

5 A eating  
B eats  
C eat

10 A respond  
B responded  
C responding

15 A does  
B is  
C have

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Is convenience food just a fad or is home-cooked food (14) a thing of the past? How (15) this trend affecting our health?

1  A spending  
 B spends  
 C spent

2  A work  
 B works  
 C working

3  A is  
 B are  
 C be

4  A has  
 B have  
 C had

5  A eating  
 B eats  
 C eat

6  A bought  
 B buys  
 C buy

7  A containing  
 B contains  
 C contain

8  A increase  
 B increasing  
 C increases

9  A is  
 B are  
 C be

10  A respond  
 B responded  
 C responding

11  A sells  
 B sell  
 C selling

12  A profit  
 B profiting  
 C profits

13  A eat  
 B ate  
 C were eating

14  A become  
 B became  
 C becoming

15  A does  
 B is  
 C have

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Is convenience food just a fad or is home-cooked food (14) a thing of the past? How is this trend (15) our health?

- 1 A are spending  
B will spend  
C spent  
D spends

- 2 A be working  
B are working  
C works  
D worked

- 3 A is joining  
B are joining  
C will join  
D joining

- 4 A have had  
B had  
C having  
D have

- 5 A be eating  
B eats  
C eat  
D eaing

- 6 A bought  
B buying  
C buy  
D be buying

- 7 A containing  
B contains  
C contained  
D contain

- 8 A increased  
B increases  
C increasing  
D increase

- 9 A are benefitting  
B benefitted  
C will be  
D is benefitting

- 10 A responding  
B are responding  
C responds  
D will respond

- 11 A sells  
B sell  
C selling  
D sold

- 12 A be profiting  
B profit  
C were profiting  
D profits

- 13 A were eating  
B have eaten  
C eat  
D ate

- 14 A becoming  
B become  
C became  
D is becoming

- 15 A affect  
B affecting  
C affected  
D affects



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- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1 <input type="radio"/> A are spending<br><input type="radio"/> B will spend<br><input type="radio"/> C spent<br><input type="radio"/> D spends                | 6 <input type="radio"/> A bought<br><input type="radio"/> B buying<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> C buy<br><input type="radio"/> D be buying                       | 11 <input type="radio"/> A sells<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B sell<br><input type="radio"/> C selling<br><input type="radio"/> D sold                    |
| 2 <input type="radio"/> A be working<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B are working<br><input type="radio"/> C works<br><input type="radio"/> D worked      | 7 <input type="radio"/> A containing<br><input type="radio"/> B contains<br><input type="radio"/> C contained<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> D contain             | 12 <input type="radio"/> A be profiting<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B profit<br><input type="radio"/> C were profiting<br><input type="radio"/> D profits |
| 3 <input type="radio"/> A is joining<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B are joining<br><input type="radio"/> C will join<br><input type="radio"/> D joining | 8 <input type="radio"/> A increased<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B increases<br><input type="radio"/> C increasing<br><input type="radio"/> D increase           | 13 <input type="radio"/> A were eating<br><input type="radio"/> B have eaten<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> C eat<br><input type="radio"/> D ate             |
| 4 <input type="radio"/> A have had<br><input type="radio"/> B had<br><input type="radio"/> C having<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> D have                 | 9 <input type="radio"/> A are benefitting<br><input type="radio"/> B benefitted<br><input type="radio"/> C will be<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> D is benefitting | 14 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A becoming<br><input type="radio"/> B become<br><input type="radio"/> C became<br><input type="radio"/> D is becoming         |
| 5 <input type="radio"/> A be eating<br><input type="radio"/> B eats<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> C eat<br><input type="radio"/> D eaing                 | 10 <input type="radio"/> A responding<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B are responding<br><input type="radio"/> C responds<br><input type="radio"/> D will respond  | 15 <input type="radio"/> A affect<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> B affecting<br><input type="radio"/> C affected<br><input type="radio"/> D affects          |