

LESSON 22

Contrast: Present and Present Continuous Tenses

See Appendix E
for more time
expressions.

Use the present tense to talk about
something that repeats or is routine.

They usually play soccer.
Do they usually play soccer?
What do they usually play?

Use the present continuous tense to talk
about what is happening right now or
about a future plan.

They're playing soccer now.
Are they playing soccer now?
Why are they playing soccer?

Some Time Expressions

Present Tense

- every... second, minute, hour, day, week, weekend, month, year, Monday
- once a day, twice a week, three times a month
- on Tuesdays
- always, usually, sometimes, rarely, never

Present Continuous Tense

- now
- right now
- today, tomorrow, at noon, at 6:00
- this... week, weekend, month, year
- these days



A A reporter is asking people about their hobbies. Read the following interviews. Circle the verbs in the present tense. Underline the verbs in the present continuous tense. Then listen.



Interviewer: Today our question is "What do you do in your spare time?" I'm at the mall and I'm going to talk to a few shoppers. Excuse me. What's your name?

Tina: My name is Tina.

Interviewer: What do you do in your spare time?

Tina: I knit. I'm in a knitting club. It meets every Saturday. Right now I'm knitting a sweater for my son. I'm working hard on it.



Interviewer: Thank you, Tina. And you two young men... what are your names?

Jake: My name is Jake and this is my brother, Tom.

Interviewer: And what do you do in your spare time?

Jake: We love sports. We play soccer in the fall and tennis in the spring. But we don't play any sports in the winter.



Interviewer: And what's your name, sir?

Charlie: My name is Charlie.

Interviewer: What do you do in your spare time?

Charlie: I read a lot. I buy a new book every week. I usually read mysteries. I don't like love stories. Right now I'm reading Sherlock Holmes stories.

B Complete the sentences with the verbs in parentheses. Use the present or present continuous tense. Check (✓) PT for present tense and PCT for present continuous tense.

- | | PT | PCT |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Tina (knit) every Saturday. | | |
| 2. Right now she (knit) a sweater. | | |
| 3. Her knitting club (meet) once a week. | | |
| 4. Jake and his brother (play) soccer in the fall. | | |
| 5. They (not play) soccer in the spring. | | |

C Complete the following chart with sentences and questions in the present tense and the present continuous tense.

	Present Tense	Present Continuous Tense
Affirmative Singular	Richard listens to jazz every day.	Richard is listening to jazz now.
Affirmative Plural	His parents <u>take</u> a walk every day.	His parents a walk now.
Negative Singular	Richard to jazz every day.	Richard isn't listening to jazz now.
Negative Plural	His parents a walk every day.	His parents a walk now.
Yes-No Question Singular	Does Richard listen to jazz every day?	 he to jazz now?
Yes-No Question Plural	 his parents a walk every day?	 his parents a walk now?

D On a separate piece of paper, answer the questions, "What do you do in your spare time?" and "What are you doing these days?" Then ask three classmates these questions and write their answers.

EXAMPLE:

I read in my spare time. I'm working a lot these days.
 Mona watches movies in her spare time. She is planning her wedding these days.