



## Present Continuous: Present Simple vs Present Continuous

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- I usually \_\_\_ coffee, but today I \_\_\_ tea.  
a) am drinking ... drink  
b) am drinking ... am drinking  
c) drink ... am drinking  
d) drink ... drink
- She \_\_\_ as a nurse. She \_\_\_ at the hospital right now.  
a) works ... works  
b) works ... is working  
c) is working ... is working  
d) is working ... works
- Water \_\_\_ at 100 degrees Celsius.  
a) boil  
b) boils  
c) is boiling  
d) boiling
- Look! The water \_\_\_\_. The pasta is ready to cook.  
a) boiled  
b) is boiling  
c) boil  
d) boils
- He \_\_\_ to the gym every Monday and Wednesday.  
a) goes  
b) going  
c) is going  
d) go
- I can't go out. I \_\_\_ for an important exam.  
a) study  
b) studying  
c) studies  
d) am studying
- The Earth \_\_\_ around the Sun.  
a) is going  
b) go  
c) going  
d) goes
- What \_\_\_ you \_\_\_? It smells delicious!  
a) does ... cook  
b) do ... cook  
c) are ... cooking  
d) cooking
- He \_\_\_ three languages: English, French, and Spanish.  
a) is speaking  
b) speaking  
c) speaks  
d) speak
- Shh! He \_\_\_ on the phone to an important client.  
a) speaking  
b) is speaking  
c) speak  
d) speaks
- I \_\_\_ you're wrong. This answer is correct.  
a) thinking  
b) thinks  
c) am thinking  
d) think





## Answers

1. c) drink ... am drinking
2. b) works ... is working
3. b) boils
4. b) is boiling
5. a) goes
6. d) am studying
7. d) goes
8. c) are ... cooking
9. c) speaks
10. b) is speaking
11. d) think
12. d) am thinking
13. a) leaves
14. b) are ... looking
15. c) arrives
16. b) is ... borrowing
17. c) drive ... am walking
18. a) tastes
19. d) play ... am trying
20. c) are travelling



# Explanations

**1. “drink ... am drinking” (c)**

'Usually' = habit (Present Simple). 'Today' = temporary/now (Present Continuous).

**2. “works ... is working” (b)**

Job = permanent (Present Simple). 'Right now' = at this moment (Present Continuous).

**3. “boils” (b)**

Scientific facts use Present Simple, not Continuous.

**4. “is boiling” (b)**

'Look!' signals an action happening now. Use Present Continuous.

**5. “goes” (a)**

'Every Monday and Wednesday' = regular routine. Use Present Simple.

**6. “am studying” (d)**

A temporary situation around now. Use Present Continuous.

**7. “goes” (d)**

General facts about the world use Present Simple.

**8. “are ... cooking” (c)**

Asking about what's happening now. Use Present Continuous.

**9. “speaks” (c)**

Ability/skill = permanent state. Use Present Simple.

**10. “is speaking” (b)**

'Shh!' signals an action happening now. Use Present Continuous.

**11. “think” (d)**

'Think' meaning 'believe' is stative. Use Present Simple.

**12. “am thinking” (d)**

'Think about' meaning 'consider' is an active mental process. Use Present Continuous.

**13. “leaves” (a)**

Timetables and schedules use Present Simple.

**14. “are ... looking” (b)**

Asking about what's happening at this moment. Use Present Continuous.

**15. “arrives” (c)**

'Always' with a habit (even an annoying one) uses Present Simple.

**16. “is ... borrowing” (b)**

'Is always + -ing' expresses annoyance about repeated behavior. This is a special use of Present Continuous.

**17. “drive ... am walking” (c)**

'Usually' = habit (Simple). 'This week' = temporary (Continuous).

**18. “tastes” (a)**

'Taste' describing a quality is stative. Use Present Simple.

**19. “play ... am trying” (d)**

'Every weekend' = regular habit. 'This week' = temporary new activity.

**20. “are travelling” (c)**

'These days' + changing trend = Present Continuous.