PRATIK DERS

Present Simple vs Present Continuous

Ders kategorisi: Mësimet në gjuhë angleze

> Choose confidently between the two present tenses: routine versus right now, permanent versus temporary. Includes side-by-side examples, contrasting time expressions and verbs that change meaning in each form.

Present Simple vs Present Continuous

Both tenses talk about the present, but they look at it differently. The **present simple** treats a situation as general, permanent or repeated. The **present continuous** treats it as temporary, in progress or changing. Choosing between them is less about time and more about *how you see the situation*.

Learning objectives

- Decide quickly which of the two present tenses a sentence needs.
- Match each tense with its typical time expressions.
- Explain how the same verb can change meaning in each form.
- Avoid the continuous with stative verbs.

The core contrast

Idea	Present simple	Present continuous
Routine vs now	*I **drink** coffee every morning.*	*I'**m drinking** coffee right now.*
Permanent vs temporary	*She **lives** in Tirana.*	*She'**s living** with her aunt for a month.*
Fact vs change	*The climate **is** warm here.*	*The climate **is getting** warmer.*
Timetable vs arrangement	*The film **starts** at eight.*	*We'**re meeting** at eight.*
General ability vs current action	*He **plays** the guitar.*	*He'**s playing** the guitar.*

Time expressions that decide the tense

Present simple	Present continuous
always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely, never	now, right now, at the moment
every day / week / year	today, this week, these days
on Mondays, twice a month	currently, at present, still
in general, as a rule	Look! Listen!

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Careful with **always**: it normally signals the simple, but with the continuous it expresses irritation — *He**'s always interrupting** me.*

Verbs that change meaning

Verb	Simple	Continuous
think	*I **think** it's a good idea.* — opinion	*I**'m thinking** about moving.* — considering
have	*They **have** two cars.* — own	*They**'re having** dinner.* — eating
see	*I **see** the problem.* — understand	*I**'m seeing** a client.* — meeting
look	*She **looks** tired.* — appears	*She**'s looking** at the map.* — directing her eyes
be	*He **is** rude.* — his character	*He**'s being** rude.* — behaving so today
taste / smell	*It **smells** nice.* — quality	*She**'s smelling** the flowers.* — action

A decision method

1. Is the verb **stative**? If yes, use the simple.
2. Is the action **happening now or around now**? If yes, use the continuous.
3. Is it a **habit, fact or permanent state**? If yes, use the simple.
4. Is it a **fixed timetable**? Simple. A **personal arrangement**? Continuous.

Contrasting examples in context

- *Ana **works** in a bank, but this month she **is working** in the London office.*
- *I usually **take** the bus, but today I**'m walking**.*
- *He **doesn't eat** meat, so he**'s having** the vegetarian option.*
- *Water **freezes** at zero, and right now it**'s freezing** outside.*

Common mistakes

Mistake	Correct	Why
I am liking this song.	**I like this song.**	stative verb
Look! It rains.	**Look! It's raining.**	*Look!* signals now
Every day I am going to work.	**Every day I go to work.**	routine
What do you do now? meaning right now	**What are you doing now?**	*What do you do?* asks about a job
The train is leaving at 6.15 every day.	**The train leaves at 6.15.**	timetable

Learning tips

1. Ask yourself one question: "Is this true in general, or true just now?"
2. Write pairs of sentences about the same person, one of each tense. The contrast fixes the rule faster than isolated examples.
3. Treat *What do you do?* and *What are you doing?* as two separate expressions with different meanings.

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Summary checklist

- General or temporary?
- Stative verb → simple.
- Does the time expression match the tense I chose?
- Timetable → simple; arrangement → continuous.

Shpjegim në gjuhën shqipe

Rregulli i anglishtes, i shpjeguar në shqip

Të dyja kohët flasin për të tashmen, por e shohin atë ndryshe. E **thjeshta** e paraqet situatën si të përgjithshme, të përhershme ose të përsëritur. E **vazhduara** e paraqet si të përkohshme, në zhvillim ose në ndryshim.

Zgjedhja nuk varet aq nga koha sa nga *mënyra si e sheh folësi situatën.* E njëjta fjali mund të jetë e saktë në të dyja format, por me kuptime të ndryshme.

Katër dallime praktike duhen mbajtur mend: zakon kundrejt çastit; e përhershme kundrejt së përkohshmes; fakt kundrejt ndryshimit; orar zyrtar kundrejt marrëveshjeje personale. Orari merr gjithmonë kohën e thjeshtë (*The train leaves at six*), kurse marrëveshja merr të vazhduarën (*We're meeting at six*).

Ndajfolja *always* shoqëron zakonisht kohën e thjeshtë, por me të vazhduarën shpreh **bezdi**: *He's always interrupting me.*

Ekuivalenti në gjuhën shqipe

Dallimi anglez midis dy kohëve të tashme përkon mjaft mirë me dallimin shqip midis foljes **pa pjesëzën po** dhe foljes **me pjesëzën po**. Ky është një nga çelësat më të dobishëm për folësit e shqipes.

Anglisht	Shqip	Kuptimi
I read every evening.	Lexoj çdo mbrëmje.	zakon
I am reading now.	**Po** lexoj tani.	veprim në çast
She works in a bank.	Ajo punon në bankë.	gjendje e qëndrueshme
She is working from home.	Ajo **po** punon nga shtëpia.	gjendje e përkohshme

Tabela e krahasimit

Ideja	E thjeshtë	E vazhduar
Zakon kundrejt çastit	*I drink coffee every morning.*	*I'm drinking coffee right now.*
E përhershme kundrejt së përkohshmes	*She lives in Tirana.*	*She's living with her aunt.*
Fakt kundrejt ndryshimit	*The climate is warm.*	*The climate is getting warmer.*
Orar kundrejt marrëveshjeje	*The film starts at eight.*	*We're meeting at eight.*

Shprehjet e kohës

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E thjeshtë	Shqip	E vazhduar	Shqip
always	gjithmonë	now	tani
usually	zakonisht	at the moment	për momentin
every day	çdo ditë	today	sot
often	shpesh	this week	këtë javë
never	kurrë	Look! Listen!	Shiko! Dëgjo!

Metoda e zgjedhjes

1. A është folje gjendjeje (*know, want, like, have*)? Nëse po, përdorni **të thjeshtën**.
2. A do ta thoshit në shqip me **po**? Nëse po, përdorni **të vazhduarën**.
3. A është zakon, fakt ose orar? Atëherë **e thjeshta**.
4. A është marrëveshje e caktuar për të ardhmen? Atëherë **e vazhduara**, edhe pse shqipja nuk përdor *po*.

Kur ndryshon kuptimi

Folja	E thjeshtë	E vazhduar
think	*I think you're right.* — Mendoj se ke të drejtë.	*I'm thinking about it.* — Po mendoj për të.
have	*They have two cars.* — Kanë dy makina.	*They're having dinner.* — Po hanë darkë.
see	*I see the problem.* — E shoh problemin.	*I'm seeing a client.* — Po takoj një klient.
be	*He is rude.* — Ai është i pasjellshëm.	*He's being rude.* — Po sillet keq.

Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
I am liking this song.	**I like this song.**	folje gjendjeje
Look! It rains.	**Look! It's raining.**	*Shiko!* tregon çastin
Every day I am going to work.	**Every day I go to work.**	zakon
What do you do now?	**What are you doing now?**	*What do you do?* pyet për profesionin

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