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Perfect english grammar present simple or present continuous exercise 3

Here is a list of the present continuous exercises (or present progressive exercises) on the site to help you practise forming and using the verb tense. Click here to review how to MAKE the present continuous tense Click here to review how to USE the present continuous tense Exercises Use the Present Continuous Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. Read about how to make the present continuous tense here. Download this explanation in PDF here. Present Uses 1: First, we use the present continuous for things that are happening at the moment of speaking. These things usually last for quite a short time and they are not finished when we are talking about them. I'm working at the moment. Please call back as we are eating dinner now. Julie is sleeping. 2: We can also use this tense for other kinds of temporary situations, even if the action isn't happening at this moment. John's working in a bar until he finds a job in his field. (He might not be working now.) I'm reading a really great book. She's staying with her friend for a week. Compare this with the present simple, which is used for permanent situations that we feel will continue for a long time. I work in a school. (I think this is a permanent situation.) I'm working in a school. (I think this is a temporary situation.) 3: We can use the present continuous for temporary or new habits (for normal habits that continue for a long time, we use the present simple). We often use this with expressions like 'these days' or 'at the moment'. He's eating a lot these days. She's swimming every morning (she didn't use to do this). You're smoking too much. 4: Another present continuous use is for habits that are not regular, but that happen very often. In this case we usually use an adverb like 'always', 'forever' or 'constantly'. Often, we use the present continuous in this way to talk about an annoying habit. You're forever losing your keys! She's constantly missing the train. Lucy's always smiling! Future Uses 5: The next use is for definite future arrangements (with a future time word). In this case we have already made a plan and we are pretty sure that the event will happen in the future. I'm meeting my father tomorrow. We're going to the beach at the weekend. I'm leaving at three. We can't use this tense (or any other continuous tense) with stative verbs.Read more about the difference between the present simple and the present continuous here.) Try some exercises about the present continuous here. Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. Here's a list of all the present perfect simple exercises and present perfect continuous exercises on my website. (If you need to review how to make the present perfect, click here) (If you need to review how to use the present perfect, click here) Practice exercises about how to make the present perfect: Practice exercises about how to make the present perfect continuous: Practice exercises about how to use the present perfect and the present perfect continuous: Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. Choose the present perfect simple or continuous. Click here to review how to make the present perfect. Click here to review how to make the present perfect continuous. Click here to return to the list of English grammar exercises. Download this exercise in PDF. Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. (Download this explanation in PDF) We use both of these tenses for finished and unfinished actions. The present perfect simple can be used (often with 'since' and 'for') to talk about unfinished actions that started in the past and are still true in the present. It's often used with stative verbs: I've known John for three years. The present perfect continuous can also be used (often with 'since' and 'for') to talk about unfinished actions that started in the past and are still true in the present. (Of course, we don't use the present perfect continuous with stative verbs): She's been living here for three years. Sometimes there's really no difference in meaning between the two tenses. This is especially the case with verbs such as 'live', 'work' and 'study'. They've lived in London since 2004. They've been living in London since 2004. I've studied French for ten years. I've been studying French for ten years. He's worked at the company since 2009. He's been working at our company since 2009. Sometimes, there is a difference in meaning: 1: The present perfect continuous can be used to emphasise the length of time that has passed. The present perfect simple is generally neutral: They've been waiting for hours! (This emphasises the length of time). They've waited for hours. (This doesn't emphasise the length of time). 2: On the other hand, the present perfect simple is often used when we're talking about how much or how many. This isn't possible with the present perfect continuous: She's drunk three cups of coffee this morning. She's drunk at least a litre of coffee today. (NOT: she's been drinking three cups of coffee this morning). 3: The present perfect continuous often focuses on the action itself, while the present perfect simple focuses on the fact that the action is completed: I've been reading the book you recommended. (I'm enjoying it, but I'm not finished). I've read the book you recommended. (I've finished it, so we can talk about it). We use 'yet' and 'already' with the present perfect simple: Have you read the book yet? She's finished her work already. This difference is often used to talk about different kinds of results in the present. The present perfect simple is used when the action is finished, and the result comes from the action being finished: I've eaten dinner, so let's go out. She's done all her homework, so she can relax this evening. I've made a cake. Would you like some? The present perfect continuous is used when the result comes from the action itself. It doesn't matter if the whole action is finished or not. The result is often something we can see, hear, smell, or feel: I've been eating dinner, so there are plates all over the table. She's been doing her homework, so she's tired. I've been making a cake, that's why the kitchen is such a mess. 4: Finally, the present perfect continuous can be used to emphasise that something is temporary. She's been running a lot recently. (She doesn't usually do this). Usually I study at home, but I've been studying in the library for the last week. Click here for more about the present perfect simple tense. Click here for more about the present perfect continuous tense. Download this explanation in PDF. Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. This present simple exercise includes the positive, negative and question forms. Type the whole sentence into the box and click 'check'. Click here to review how to make the present simple. Click here for all the present simple exercises.. Click here to download this exercise in PDF (with answers) Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. Choose the present simple or the present continuous. Click here to review how to make the present continuous. Click here to review how to make the present simple. Click here to return to the list of grammar exercises. Download this exercise in PDF.Need more practice? 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