

Lesson Plan: Present simple vs. present continuous

Level: Beginner/Low-intermediate (A1-B1)

Time: 45-60 minutes

Objective:

Students will be able to:

- Understand the difference between present simple and present continuous.
- Use both tenses correctly in speaking and writing.

Warm-Up (5–10 minutes)

Activity: Show pictures of people doing different activities (e.g., eating, running, reading).

Ask:

- "What is she doing?" → Use Present Continuous.
- "What does she do every day?" → Use Present Simple.

Presentation (10–15 minutes)

➤ **Present Simple**

- Used for habits, routines, and facts.
- Example:
 - "She **walks** to school."
 - "Birds **fly**."

Keywords: always, usually, often, sometimes, every day

► Present Continuous

- Used for actions happening **right now** or **around now**.
- Example:
 - "She **is walking** to school **now**."
 - "He **is reading** a book."

Keywords: now, at the moment, right now, currently

Practice (15–20 minutes)

Controlled Practice (Fill-in-the-blank)

Example:

- "Tom ___ (eat) breakfast now." → is eating
- "Tom ___ (eat) breakfast every day." → eats

Pair Practice

Each pair gets a list of verbs. Students ask and answer:

A: "What do you do on weekends?" → Present Simple

B: "What are you doing now?" → Present Continuous

Production (10–15 minutes)

Activity:

Students write 3 sentences in present simple and 3 in present continuous about themselves. Then, share with a partner.

Review & Wrap-Up (5 minutes)

- Review key differences.
- Quick quiz or game (e.g., "tense bingo" or sentence correction race).