

PRESENT SIMPLE AND PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Present simple:

Form:

Positive

I/You/We/They **start** at 8:00.
She/He/It **starts** at 8:00

Negative

I/You/We/They **don't start** at 8:00.
She/He/It **doesn't start** at 8:00.

Question:

Do I/you/we/they **start** at 8:00?
Does she/he/it **start** at 8:00?

Yes, I do. No, I don't.
Yes, she does. No, she doesn't.

Use:

- 1 Facts which are always true *Water **boils** at 100 degrees Celsius.*
- 2 Habitual actions (routines, habits) *I **usually go** to work by car.*
- 3 Permanent situations and states *My parents **live** in London. They have been there for 20 years.*
- 4 Future facts *My train **leaves** at 7:00.*

Common time adverbials with the Present Simple: *always, usually, regularly, every morning, often, sometimes, twice a week, from time to time, occasionally, rarely, seldom, once a month, hardly ever, never.*

Present continuous

Form:

Positive:

Subject + to be + verb-ing
I **am going** outside.
You **are going** outside....

Negative:

Subject + not to be + verb-ing
I **am not going** outside.
You **are not going** outside. ...

Question:

to be + subject + verb-ing
Are you **going** outside?
Is he **going** outside?

Yes, I am. No, I am not.
Yes, he is. No, he isn't.

Use:

- 1 An activity happening now *I'm **doing** the washing-up just now.*
- 2 Temporary situations and habits *I'm **living** with some friends until I can find a flat.*
- 3 An annoying habit *You're **always borrowing** money from me!*
- 4 Personal arrangements for the future *We **are going** to Prague on Saturday.*

Common time adverbials: *just, now, at the moment, at the present.*