



14 The Present Tense

THINK



Critical Thinking



Vocational Skills

The first row of pictures shows things that are done regularly. The second row shows actions being done right now. Describe each in short sentences.



She bakes pastries



He digs the pit



He listens to music



she is shaking hands with him



He is giving a gift to her



They are hugging

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Present Tense

Notice the verbs in these sentences.

- Rania **swims** with her friend.
- Rania **is swimming** with her friend.

The verbs tell us about the tense of the sentences. The tense of a verb tells us the time of an action. You have learnt about the **simple present** and the **present continuous** tenses.

simple present

talks about an action that is habitual or occurs regularly or is a universal truth

uses the root form of the verb
-s -es (in singular or plural)

- Rakhi **dances** gracefully.
- My parents **go** for a walk every evening.
- A magnet **attracts** iron.

present continuous

talks about an action that is going on in the present or for an action that will happen in the near future

uses **am/is/are** + the **-ing** form of the verb

- I **am eating** my lunch early.
- Tara **is travelling** to Mumbai tomorrow.
- They **are playing** against our club.

Formation of verbs in the simple present tense

We add -s to the root forms of many verbs

- give + -s - **gives**; talk + -s - **talks**; walk + -s - **walks**

For verbs that end with -y preceded by a consonant, we form the simple present tense by replacing -y at the end with -ies

- cry - **cries**; try - **tries**; reply - **replies**

For verbs that end with -y preceded by a vowel, the simple present tense is formed by adding -s at the end

- play - **plays**; say - **says**; stay - **stays**

For verbs that end with -s, -z, -ch, -sh, -x, the simple present tense is formed by adding -es at the end

- cross - **crosses**; watch - **watches**; wash - **washes**; fix - **fixes**

PRACTISE

A. Choose the correct options.

1. The Earth **revolves**/revolve around the Sun.
2. Many people regularly **takes**/**take** the metro to office.
3. A geologist **studies**/studys rocks and their formation.
4. Darwesh and his friends **practise**/practises here every evening.
5. Gayatri, as well as her mother, **like**/**likes** sugar in their coffee.



6. The manager, along with his employees, ~~leave~~ leaves the office before 7.
7. Neither Sohrab nor his cousin ~~watch~~ watches French movies.
8. Each student must ~~write~~ writes a review of their favourite book.
9. Every officer ~~enters~~ enters the building by 10 a.m.
10. Fatima or Garvit ~~read~~ reads the news in the morning assembly.
11. Either the teachers or the principal can ~~attend~~ attends the event.
12. Neither the father nor the children ~~want~~ wants to sleep early.

B. Complete the steps for making a sandwich using verbs in the simple present tense.

take
sprinkle

cover
eat

slice
butter

put
place

1. I take four slices of bread.
2. I slice some vegetables—tomatoes, onions and cucumbers.
3. I butter the slices of bread.
4. I place slices of cheese on them.
5. Then I put some vegetables on two slices.
6. I sprinkle some salt and pepper on the vegetables.
7. I cover them with the remaining slices of bread.
8. Now, I eat my sandwich!



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Present Continuous Tense

Formation of -ing verbs

We add -ing to the root forms of the verbs

- talk – **talk**ing; sleep – **sleep**ing; read – **read**ing

For verbs ending with -e, we drop the -e and replace it with -ing

- take – **take**ing; hide – **hide**ing; write – **write**ing

For some verbs, the last letter is doubled and -ing is added to the end.

- hug – **hug**ing; hit – **hit**ing; begin – **begin**ing

For verbs ending with -ie, we replace -ie with -y and add -ing at the end
• lie - lying; tie - tying; die - dying

PRACTISE



C. Complete the paragraph using the present continuous forms of the verbs in the brackets.

They are having (have) a meeting inside. I wonder what they are discussing (discuss). Perhaps they are thinking (think) of declaring a holiday tomorrow. Peep through this window. Tell us what they are doing (do). Well, Ms Pandey is standing (stand) and is talking (talk) to the others. All the others are listening (listen) to her, while Mr Tripathi is nodding (nod) his head. The manager is taking (take) down notes. Now, all the people are (clap). Look out, they are (begin) to leave!



D. Rewrite these sentences in the simple present tense.

1. Kartik is eating guavas.

Kartik eats guavas.

2. I am reading new books.

I read new books.

3. They are playing in the park.

They play in the park.

4. You are looking pretty.

You look pretty.

5. Gina is collecting postcards.

Gina collects postcards.



E. Rewrite these sentences in the present continuous tense.

1. She writes creatively.

She is writing creatively.

2. Revathi sleeps peacefully.

Revathi is sleeping peacefully

3. Simmi drives her father's car.

Simmi is driving her father's car



4. Sukhbir plays with Daler.

Sukhbir is playing with Daler.

5. We walk to the supermarket.

We are walking to the supermarket.

F. Look at Vertika's time table given below. Write about her daily schedule.

wake up	7.00 a.m.
brush	7.15 a.m.
bathe	7.30 a.m.
have breakfast	8.15 a.m.
go to school	8.30 a.m.
return from school	3.00 p.m.
rest	3.30 p.m.
finish homework	5.00 p.m.
play with friends	7.00 p.m.
watch television	8.00 p.m.
have dinner	9.00 p.m.
go to sleep	10.00 p.m.

Vertika wakes up at 7.00 a.m.

Vertika brushes her teeth at 7.15 am

Vertika bathes at 7.30 am

Vertika has her breakfast at

Vertika goes to school at 8.30 am

Vertika returns from school at 3.00 pm

Vertika rests at 3.30 pm

Vertika finishes her homework at

Vertika plays with her friends at 5.00 pm

Vertika watches television at 8.00 pm

Vertika has her dinner at 9.00 pm

Vertika goes to sleep at 10.00 pm

G. Use these verbs in sentences of your own in the simple present and the present continuous forms.



1. dive The performers dive into the pool perfectly
The girls are diving into the river.

2. speak I can speak English and Gujarati language
Teacher is speaking on global warming

3. fight I often fight with my siblings
The dogs are fighting for the bone.

1. pay We pay attention in the class.
- They are paying a fine for cutting trees.
5. learn We should learn good manners.
- I am learning religious songs during vacations.
6. sing The choir group sings melodiously.
- Girls are singing a religious song.
7. build The carpenters build the furniture.
- We are building a sand castle.

H. Look at the picture given below. Describe the picture in eight sentences using the present continuous tense.



The children are playing in the park.

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Present Perfect Tense

Read these sentences.

- Jyoti has cleaned her room.
- I have completed my homework.
- They have invited a few friends to the party.

The verbs in these sentences are in the present perfect tense. We use the present perfect tense to express an action that has just or already been completed.

We use **has/have** + past participle form of the verb to form the present perfect tense.

Formation of the past participle form of verbs

adding -ed	add -ed at the end of the root form of the verb	walked, listened, jumped
verbs ending with -s, -ss, -ch, -sh, -z, -x	add -ed at the end of the root form of the verb	blessed, watched, pushed
verbs ending with -e, -ee, -ie	add -d at the end of the root form of the verb	fixed baked, freed, tied
consonant + verbs ending with -y	replace y with -ied	carried, married, cried
vowel + verbs ending with -y	add -ed at the end of the root form of the verb	played, stayed, prayed

Some verbs do not take -d/-ed/-ied to form the past participle. These verbs are called **irregular verbs**.

hide - hidden	learn - learnt	blow - blown	bring - brought
break - broken	catch - caught	drink - drunk	buy - bought

Some verbs do not change form when changed into past participle.

cut - cut	hit - hit	hurt - hurt	put - put
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Tips & Tricks

The present perfect tense shows the actions that have already happened and continue to affect the present. For example: I **have lost** my keys. It means, I still haven't found them.

PRACTISE

I. Fill in the blanks with the past participle form of the verbs given below.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. talk | talked | 2. dry | dried |
| 3. make | made | 4. choose | chosen |
| 5. buy | bought | 6. feel | felt |
| 7. ring | rung | 8. forget | forgotten |
| 9. leave | left | 10. sing | sung |
| 11. write | written | 12. shut | shut |

J. Fill in the blanks with present perfect form of the verbs given in the brackets.



1. Gayatri has gone (go) out for the weekend.
2. Rupali and Alisha have spent (spend) all of their pocket money.
3. The herd of cows has crossed (cross) the narrow bridge.
4. Each participant has submitted (submit) their forms.
5. Every newspaper has reported (report) on the current climate crisis.
6. Neither Jay nor Umang has read (read) Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.
7. The author has written (write) many stories for young adults.
8. The producer and director, Ms Rati Bansal, has chosen (choose) the cast for her new film.



K. Rewrite this passage in the present perfect tense.

A robbery takes place in Indira Nagar, Chennai. A thief enters the house. A young girl sees the thief. She hides behind the curtains in her room. The thief walks into the bedroom. He packs the valuables from the safe. The young girl calls her parents. Her parents inform the neighbours and the police. The neighbours go to the house. The police arrives. They catch the thief. They rush him to the police station.

PLAY



Creative Thinking



Environmental Literacy



I. Imagine you are on a holiday. You are sitting somewhere high in the quiet mountains or on a lonely seashore. Describe the scene in front and around you in a letter to a friend. Use the present continuous tense.