

★ B PRESENT SIMPLE / PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Il **presente indicativo italiano** si rende in inglese con il **present simple** o con il **present continuous**. Confronta il **diverso uso** dei due tempi verbali.

SI USA

PRESENT SIMPLE	PRESENT CONTINUOUS
per parlare di: • azioni abituali o ripetute, fatti sempre veri, o situazioni permanenti <i>I usually get up early.</i> Di solito mi alzo presto. <i>I live in Milan.</i> Vivo a Milano. (abituamente)	per parlare di: • azioni in corso di svolgimento nel momento in cui si parla o per azioni temporanee in corso nel periodo in cui si parla <i>I'm getting up.</i> Mi sto alzando. <i>I'm living in a hotel at the moment.</i> Vivo in un albergo al momento. (temporaneamente)

Attenzione!!!

Il **present continuous** **NON SI USA** con alcune categorie di verbi che non ammettono la forma progressiva (**verbi di stato**). Vedi paragrafo successivo.

★ C VERBI DI STATO (verbi che non ammettono la forma progressiva)

La **forma progressiva** (o **continua**) indica sempre un'attività, un processo in corso di svolgimento, e pertanto **si usa solo con verbi che esprimono azioni**. Di norma **non si usa con i verbi di stato**, che esprimono:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> opinione, pensiero, attività mentale:
believe, know, think, understand, remember, suppose, imagine, realise, ... emozione, sentimento o volontà:
love, like, dislike, hate, prefer, wish, want, need, ... possesso o relazione:
have, own, belong to, possess, ... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> caratteristiche più o meno stabili come:
appear, seem, be, consist of, depend on, mean, cost, weigh, ... percezione involontaria
see, hear, smell, taste, ...
(con i verbi di percezione involontaria si usa spesso <i>can</i>)
<i>I can't hear you.</i>
Non ti sento/Non riesco a sentirti. |
|---|---|

Attenzione!!!

Alcuni verbi di stato a volte possono essere usati con significato diverso ed esprimere quindi un'azione o un processo in fase di svolgimento. In questo caso ammettono la forma progressiva. **Confronta** gli esempi:

have (= avere, possedere) <i>I have a brother and a sister.</i> Ho un fratello e una sorella.	have in frasi idiomatiche. (Vedi a PAG. 82) <i>I'm having lunch.</i> Sto pranzando.
think (= credere, ritenere) <i>I think he is a nice person.</i> Penso che lui sia una brava persona.	think (= considerare, pensare) <i>I'm thinking about my future career.</i> Sto pensando alla mia carriera futura.
smell (= odorare, puzzare) <i>This cake smells good.</i> Questa torta ha un buon profumo.	smell (= annusare) <i>She is smelling the perfume of the flowers.</i> Lei sta annusando il profumo dei fiori.
see (= vedere) <i>I can see children playing.</i> Vedo dei bambini giocare.	see (= incontrare) <i>We are seeing our friends quite often these days.</i> Stiamo vedendo/incontrando i nostri amici piuttosto spesso in questi giorni.
be (= essere) <i>Tom is a bit rude.</i> Tom è un po' maleducato.	be (= comportarsi) <i>Tom is being rude.</i> Tom si sta comportando in modo maleducato.

PRACTICE

1. Indica quali frasi esprimono un'azione abituale (AA) e quali frasi esprimono un'azione in corso di svolgimento (AC)

➤ *Mr Benson is a doctor and he is treating a patient at the moment.* (AC)

1. Kate is in the garden. She is mowing the lawn. (.....)
2. I read the newspaper every day. (.....)
3. We never lie in the sun for hours. (.....)
4. A lot of people are waiting for the bus. (.....)
5. She receives a lot of presents at Christmas. (.....)
6. Mark often phones Mary after dinner. (.....)

2. Completa le frasi con il *present simple* o il *present continuous* dei verbi tra parentesi nella forma corretta.

➤ *Mr Cooper is in the garden. He (repair) **is repairing** the gate.*

➤ *Mary (cycle) **cycles** to work every day.*

1. Where are your friends? - They (*play*) cards in the sitting room.
2. Look! It (*snow*)
3. It usually (*rain*) a lot at this time of year.
4. Hello, Peter. What (*you / do*) here?
5. What (*you / do*), Barbara? - I (*have*) dinner.
6. They are busy now. They (*study*) English for the Pet exam.
7. What (*he / do*)? - He's a student.
8. Pat (*not / smoke*) at the moment.
9. Peter and Mary (*look for*) a house. At the moment they (*live*) with their parents.
10. Pamela's parents are abroad, so she (*stay*) with her grandparents.

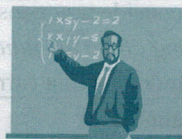
3. Guarda le immagini e scrivi frasi come nell'esempio.

➤ **Mr Bowen usually teaches Maths but today he is grading tests.**

USUALLY

**TODAY
(Saturday)**

➤ Mr Bowen / teach / Maths



He / grade / tests

1. Robert / do / his homework



He / listen / to music

2. Mr and Mrs Fox / cycle / to work



They / take / a taxi to the station

3. Mrs Clark / do / the ironing



She / read / a book

4. Sottolinea l'alternativa corretta.

➤ Why are you looking / do you look at me?

- We always **have** / **are having** lunch at the factory canteen.
- This spaghetti **tastes** / **is tasting** good.
- The cook is in the kitchen. He **tastes** / **is tasting** the meat at the moment.
- What **are you thinking** / **do you think** of your job? **Are you liking** / **Do you like** it?
- Mm, this cake **smells** / **is smelling** good.
- Jane **doesn't know** / **isn't knowing** my phone number.
- I'm **hating** / **hate** listening to music.
- Sorry. I **don't understand** / **'m not understanding** what you say / **are saying**.

5. Completa le frasi con il *present simple* o il *present continuous* dei verbi tra parentesi nella forma corretta.

- You look unhappy. What (you / think) about?
- It (be) 8 o'clock. Bob usually (get up) 7.30, but today he (still / sleep) in bed because he (have) got flu.
- They (have) a big new car and a big house. I (think) they are very rich.
- (Michael / like) jazz? - Oh, yes. He (love) it.
- What (you / think) of Paul? - I (think) he's a nice person.
- (Mary / have) a good time in Mallorca? - Yes, I (think) so.
- Is Alan a friend of yours? - Alan? No, I (not / know) him.
- I (want) to phone Mary but I (not / remember) her phone number.
- Mary is in the garden. She (smell) the perfume of the flowers.
- Hello, Bob. This is Mark. (I / disturb) you? - No, you aren't. We (just / watch) TV.

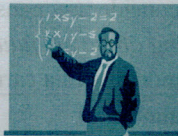
3. Guarda le immagini e scrivi frasi come nell'esempio.

➤ *Mr Bowen usually teaches Maths but today he is grading tests.*

USUALLY

TODAY (Saturday)

➤ Mr Bowen / teach / Maths



He / grade / tests

1. Robert / do / his homework



He / listen / to music

2. Mr and Mrs Fox / cycle / to work



They / take / a taxi to the station

3. Mrs Clark / do / the ironing



She / read / a book

4. Sottolinea l'alternativa corretta.

➤ Why are you looking / do you look at me?

- We always **have** / **are having** lunch at the factory canteen.
- This spaghetti **tastes** / **is tasting** good.
- The cook is in the kitchen. He **tastes** / **is tasting** the meat at the moment.
- What **are you thinking** / **do you think** of your job? **Are you liking** / **Do you like** it?
- Mm, this cake **smells** / **is smelling** good.
- Jane **doesn't know** / **isn't knowing** my phone number.
- I'm **hating** / **hate** listening to music.
- Sorry. I **don't understand** / **'m not understanding** what you say / **are saying**.

5. Completa le frasi con il *present simple* o il *present continuous* dei verbi tra parentesi nella forma corretta.

- You look unhappy. What (you / think) about?
- It (be) 8 o'clock. Bob usually (get up) 7.30, but today he (still / sleep) in bed because he (have) got flu.
- They (have) a big new car and a big house. I (think) they are very rich.
- (Michael / like) jazz? - Oh, yes. He (love) it.
- What (you / think) of Paul? - I (think) he's a nice person.
- (Mary / have) a good time in Mallorca? - Yes, I (think) so.
- Is Alan a friend of yours? - Alan? No, I (not / know) him.
- I (want) to phone Mary but I (not / remember) her phone number.
- Mary is in the garden. She (smell) the perfume of the flowers.
- Hello, Bob. This is Mark. (I / disturb) you? - No, you aren't. We (just / watch) TV.

6. Completa il dialogo con la forma corretta dei verbi tra parentesi (*present simple* o *present continuous*).

Situazione: Mary e Sarah sono vecchie compagne di scuola e si incontrano per caso dopo qualche anno dalla fine della scuola a Parigi nei pressi della stazione ferroviaria.

- M: Sarah! You're Sarah, aren't you?
S: Yes,--- Mary!! What a surprise!! What **1** (*you / do*) here? You **2** (*live*) in London, don't you?
M: Yes, that's right. I **3** (*have*) a week's holiday here.
S: Oh, are you?
M: You see, I **4** (*have*)..... got some friends here in Paris and I **5** (*stay*)with them.
S: Lucky you! I'm here for work.
M: What **6** (*you / do*)?
S: Well --- I'm the manageress of a chain of shops which sell clothes and underwear.
M: That's interesting. And what **7** (*you / do*)..... here?
S: I **8** (*visit*) one of the most important fashion fairs. You know, Paris is one of the capital cities for fashion and I **9** (*want*)..... to see the new trends.
M: But you **10** (*live*) in London, don't you?
S: Yes, that's right. At the moment I **11** (*live*) not far from Peter Dodson. **12** (*you / remember*) him? Our old schoolmate?
M: Oh, yes, I **13** (*remember*) him. How is he?
S: I **14** (*not / see*) him very often, but I think he's fine. He's getting married next month.
M: Oh, is he? That's great! What about you? Are you married?
S: No, I'm not.
M: Neither am I. I **15** (*have*) got a boyfriend.
S: Oh, dear! It's late. I must go. Why **16** (*you / not / come*) and see me in London some day? Here's my card with my new address and phone number.
M: Yes, I will. Well ---- Look after yourself and don't work too hard.
S: You too. Have a nice holiday. Bye, Mary.
M: Thanks. Bye, Sarah!

7. Rispondi alle domande sul dialogo.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. What is Mary doing in Paris? | 6. Does Sarah live in London? |
| 2. Who's Mary staying with in Paris? | 7. Where is she living at the moment? |
| 3. What does Sarah do? | 8. Does Mary remember Peter Dodson? |
| 4. What is Sarah doing in Paris? | 9. Does Sarah often see Peter Dodson? |
| 5. What does she want to see? | 10. Does Sarah invite Mary to visit her? |

6. Completa il dialogo con la forma corretta dei verbi tra parentesi (*present simple* o *present continuous*).

Situazione: Mary e Sarah sono vecchie compagne di scuola e si incontrano per caso dopo qualche anno dalla fine della scuola a Parigi nei pressi della stazione ferroviaria.

M: Sarah! You're Sarah, aren't you?
S: Yes,--- Mary!! What a surprise!! What 1) (you / do) here? You 2) (live) in London, don't you?
M: Yes, that's right. I 3) (have) a week's holiday here.
S: Oh, are you?
M: You see, I 4) (have)..... got some friends here in Paris and I 5) (stay)with them.
S: Lucky you! I'm here for work.
M: What 6) (you / do)?
S: Well --- I'm the manageress of a chain of shops which sell clothes and underwear.
M: That's interesting. And what 7) (you / do)..... here?
S: I 8) (visit) one of the most important fashion fairs. You know, Paris is one of the capital cities for fashion and I 9) (want)..... to see the new trends.
M: But you 10) (live) in London, don't you?
S: Yes, that's right. At the moment I 11) (live) not far from Peter Dodson. 12) (you / remember) him? Our old schoolmate?
M: Oh, yes, I 13) (remember) him. How is he?
S: I 14) (not / see) him very often, but I think he's fine. He's getting married next month.
M: Oh, is he? That's great! What about you? Are you married?
S: No, I'm not.
M: Neither am I. I 15) (have) got a boyfriend.
S: Oh, dear! It's late. I must go. Why 16) (you / not / come) and see me in London some day? Here's my card with my new address and phone number.
M: Yes, I will. Well ---- Look after yourself and don't work too hard.
S: You too. Have a nice holiday. Bye, Mary.
M: Thanks. Bye, Sarah!

7. Rispondi alle domande sul dialogo.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. What is Mary doing in Paris? | 6. Does Sarah live in London? |
| 2. Who's Mary staying with in Paris? | 7. Where is she living at the moment? |
| 3. What does Sarah do? | 8. Does Mary remember Peter Dodson? |
| 4. What is Sarah doing in Paris? | 9. Does Sarah often see Peter Dodson? |
| 5. What does she want to see? | 10. Does Sarah invite Mary to visit her? |