



University of Basrah  
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History Department  
Subject: English

Lecture 4

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## UNIT 2

### 2.1 Present Simple

#### Form

##### Positive and negative

I We You They	work. don't work.
He She It	works. doesn't work.

##### Question

Where	do	I we you they	live?
	does	he she it	

*Do you live in Bristol?*  
*Does he have a car?*

**Short answer**  
*Yes, we do.*  
*No, he doesn't.*

#### Use

The Present Simple is used to express:

- 1 an action that happens again and again (a habit).  
*I go to work by car.*  
*She drinks ten cups of coffee a day.*  
*I wash my hair twice a week.*
- 2 a fact that is always true.  
*Ronaldo comes from Brazil.*  
*Some birds fly south in winter.*  
*My daughter has brown eyes.*
- 3 a fact that is true for a long time (a state).  
*He works in a bank.*  
*I live in a flat near the centre of town.*  
*I prefer coffee to tea.*

### Spelling of verb + -s

- 1 Most verbs add -s to the base form of the verb.  
*wants eats helps drives*
- 2 Add -es to verbs that end in -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, and -o.  
*kisses washes watches fixes goes*
- 3 Verbs that end in a consonant + -y change the -y to -ies.  
*carries flies worries tries*  
But verbs that end in a vowel + -y only add -s.  
*buys says plays enjoys*

### ▶▶ Workbook p14 Pronunciation of -s at the end of a word

#### Adverbs of frequency

- 1 We often use adverbs of frequency with the Present Simple.

0% ————— 50% ————— 100%  
never rarely not often sometimes often usually always

- 2 They go before the main verb, but after the verb *be*. Compare:  
*I usually start school at 9.00. They're usually in a hurry in the morning.*  
*I don't often go to bed late. I'm not often late for school.*  
*She never eats meat. He's never late.*  
*I rarely see Peter these days. We're rarely at home at the weekends.*

- 3 *Sometimes* and *usually* can also go at the beginning or the end.  
*Sometimes* we play cards.      We play cards *sometimes*.  
*Usually* I go shopping with friends.      I go shopping with friends  
*usually*.

*Never, always, rarely, and seldom* cannot move in this way.

NOT *Never* I go to the movies.

*Always* I have tea in the morning.

- 4 *Every day, etc.*, goes at the end.  
 He phones me *every night*.

## 2.2 Present Continuous

### Form

#### Positive and negative

I	'm 'm not	eating.
He/She/It	's isn't	
We/You/They	're aren't	

### Question

What	am is are	I he/she/it we/you/they	doing?
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### Short answer

Are you going by train?	Yes, I am. No, I'm not.
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## Use

The Present Continuous is used to express:

- 1 an activity that is happening now.  
*Don't turn the TV off. I'm **watching** it.*  
*You can't speak to Lisa. She's **having** a bath.*
- 2 an activity or situation that is true now, but is not necessarily happening at the moment of speaking.  
*Don't take that book. Jane's **reading** it.*  
*I'm **doing** a French evening class this year.*
- 3 a temporary activity.  
*Peter is a student, but he's **working** as a waiter during the holidays.*  
*I'm **living** with friends until I find a place of my own.*
- 4 a planned future arrangement.  
*I'm **having** lunch with Glenda tomorrow.*  
*We're **meeting** at 1.00 outside the restaurant.*

## Spelling of verb + -ing

- 1 Most verbs add -ing to the base form of the verb.  
*going wearing visiting eating*
  - 2 Verbs that end in one -e lose the -e.  
*smoking coming hoping writing*  
Verbs that end in -ee don't drop an -e.  
*agreeing seeing*
- ❗ *lie lying*



# 2

# Get happy!

Present tenses • Simple or continuous? • Passive • Sport • Numbers and dates



## TEST YOUR GRAMMAR

Look at the pairs of sentences.  
Which one is correct? Why?

- 1 They have a teenage son.  
They're having a teenage son.



- 2 She speaks five languages.

## WHAT MAKES PEOPLE HAPPY?

### Present tenses

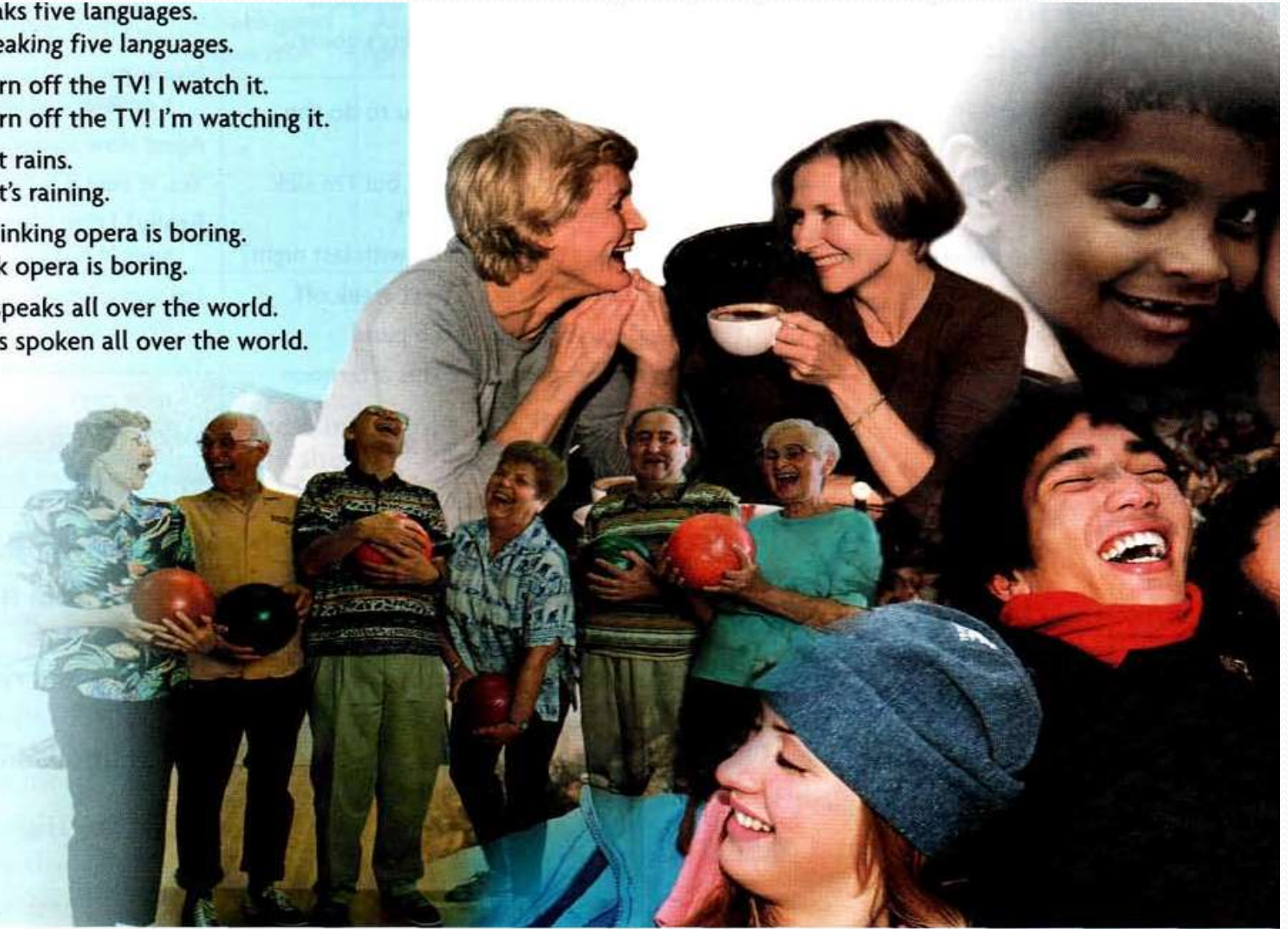
- 1 Look at the ingredients for happiness. How important is each one to you? **1** = very important; **5** = not important.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> good health in mind and body   | <input type="checkbox"/> a big house         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> job satisfaction               | <input type="checkbox"/> regular holidays    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a loving marriage              | <input type="checkbox"/> a supportive family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hobbies and leisure activities | <input type="checkbox"/> lots of friends     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> no money worries               |  |

Compare your answers with a partner.

- 2 What do you think is the happiest time of a person's life – when they are young or when they are old? Why?

- 2 She speaks five languages.  
She's speaking five languages.
- 3 Don't turn off the TV! I watch it.  
Don't turn off the TV! I'm watching it.
- 4 Oh no! It rains.  
Oh no! It's raining.
- 5 We're thinking opera is boring.  
We think opera is boring.
- 6 English speaks all over the world.  
English is spoken all over the world.



3 **T 2.1** Read and listen to the text about Harry Barnes. Answer the questions.

- 1 What do you think are the good and bad things about Harry's life?
- 2 Do you think his life is exciting or boring? Would you like to have a life like Harry's?
- 3 Do you know any people with similar lives? Are they happy?



‘I don't know if I'm happy.’

**Harry Barnes, 45**

### Work

Harry Barnes is a lawyer. He's paid very well, but he usually has to work long hours. He works for an international company in Dallas, Texas, so he travels a lot in his job. At the moment he's working in Mexico, and next week he's travelling to France.

### Home life

Harry is married and he's got two children, aged 11 and 14. He rarely sees his children because so much of his time is spent away from home. He's got a beautiful house in a suburb of Dallas. It's very big, with eight bedrooms. His wife is an interior designer.



### Free time

If he's at home at the weekend, he and his wife sometimes play golf, but that doesn't happen very often. They never have much time to relax together.

### Is he happy?

He says he doesn't know if he's happy. He's too busy to think about it.





## WHAT DO YOU DO?

Simple or continuous?



1 **T 2.5** Read and listen to the conversation.



- A What do you do?  
B I'm an interior designer. I decorate people's homes and give them ideas for furniture and lighting.  
A And what are you working on these days?  
B Well, I'm not working on a home at the moment. I'm working on a hotel. I'm designing a new lobby for the Plaza.  
A Do you like your job?  
B Yes, I love it.

# The Present and the Continuous

## GRAMMAR SPOT

- 1 Some verbs are used in both simple and continuous forms. These are called action verbs.

She usually **drives** to work, but today she **isn't driving**. She's **walking**.

- 2 Some verbs are almost never used in the continuous form. These are called state verbs.

I **like** black coffee. (NOT ~~I'm liking~~ black coffee.)

- 3 Seven of these verbs are *not* usually used in the Present Continuous. Underline them.

<u>like</u>	know	understand	work	enjoy	think (= opinion)
come	play	have (= possession)	love	want	

# PRACTICE

## Discussing grammar

- 1 Are these sentences correct (✓) or incorrect (✗)? Correct the mistakes.
- 1 What do you want to drink? ✓
  - 2 I'm not understanding this word. ✗  
*I don't understand this word.*
  - 3 I'm loving you a lot.
  - 4 Do you think Michiko plays golf well?
  - 5 I'm sorry. I'm not knowing the answer.
  - 6 We're enjoying the lesson very much.  
We're working hard.
  - 7 I'm thinking you speak English very well.
  - 8 The lions are fed once a day. They're being fed at the moment.

**2** Complete the pairs of sentences using the verb in the Present Simple or the Present Continuous.

1 come

Alec and Marie are French. They \_\_\_\_\_ from Paris.

They'll be here very soon. They \_\_\_\_\_ by car.

2 have

Lisa can't come to the phone. She \_\_\_\_\_ dinner now.

She \_\_\_\_\_ a beautiful new car.

3 think

I \_\_\_\_\_ that all politicians tell lies.

I \_\_\_\_\_ about my girlfriend at the moment. She's in Australia.

4 not enjoy

We \_\_\_\_\_ this party at all. The music is too loud.

We \_\_\_\_\_ big parties.

5 watch

Be quiet! I \_\_\_\_\_ my favourite programme.

I always \_\_\_\_\_ it on Thursday evenings.

6 see

Joe isn't here. He \_\_\_\_\_ the doctor at the moment.

I \_\_\_\_\_ your problem, but I can't help you. I'm sorry.

7 use (Careful!)

This room \_\_\_\_\_ usually \_\_\_\_\_ for big meetings.

But today it \_\_\_\_\_ being \_\_\_\_\_ for a party.



THE  
Best  
is yet to  
Come