# **Present Simple vs. Present Continuous**



# **Present Simple Tense**

- 1 For facts or things that are always true or generally true.
- Whales live in the ocean.
- A dog has four legs.
- It rains a lot in winter.
- ✓ Water boils at 100° Celsius.

# **Present Simple Tense**

- 2 For regular habits or repeated actions.
- I brush my teeth three times a day.
- I read in bed every night.
- She goes to the gym after work.
- He walks to school every day.

#### **Present Continuous Tense**

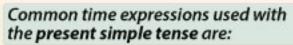
- 1 For an action happening right now at the moment of speaking.
- I am teaching an English lesson
- You are watching a video.
- Steve is washing his hair.
- She is taking her dog for a walk.

## **Present Continuous Tense**

- 2 To talk about something that is happening AROUND the time of speaking but not necessarily at this exact moment.
- I am reading a great book.

It doesn't necessarily mean that I am reading a book right at this moment. It refers to this moment of my life.





- always, often, generally, sometimes, never ...
- every day, every week, every year ...
- once a day, twice a week, three times a month ...
- in the morning, in the afternoon, at night

Common time expressions used with the present continuous tense are:

- now, right now
- at the moment
- ✓ still



I live in England.

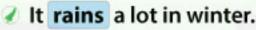
# **Present Simple Tense**

I plan to live in England for a long time and I don't plan to change soon. It is more or less permanent.

I am living in London at the moment.

### **Present Continuous Tense**

The situation is temporary. Next month I plan to live in a different city.



### **Present Simple Tense**

This is a fact. It is generally true.

It is raining right now.

#### **Present Continuous Tense**

This is an action happening now. The situation is temporary. Tomorrow it might be sunny.



O Woodward English