**Present Simple Vs Present Continuous**

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| **Present Simple** | **Present Continuous** |
| ***Things which are always true:***   * Water **boils** at 100 degrees. | ***Things which are happening at the moment of speaking:***   * The water **is boiling** now, so you can put in the pasta. |
| ***Permanent situations (or nearly permanent; true for a few years at least):***   * Julie **lives** in London. | ***Temporary situations:***   * Julie **is living** in Paris for a few months (usually she lives in London).   ***Situations which are slowly changing***:   * I**'m getting** better and better at speaking English. |
| ***Habits or things we do regularly:***   * I **drink** coffee every morning. | ***Temporary or new habits:***   * I**'m drinking** too much coffee these days because I'm so busy at work.   ***Annoying habits (usually with 'always'):***   * My flatmate **is always leaving** the kitchen in a mess! |
| ***Future events which are part of a timetable:***   * My plane **leaves** at eight tonight.   ***To talk about the future after certain words ('when' 'until' 'after' 'before' 'as soon as'):***   * I'll call you **when I get** home. | ***Definite future plans:***   * I**'m meeting** John after class today. |
| To ***talk about what happens in books, plays and films:***   * At the end of the book, the detective **catches** the killer. | ***To talk about people in pictures and photos:***   * In this photo, my mother **is walking** beside a lake |