ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 1 · NEW BEGINNINGS · GRAMMAR Name: _____ Date: _____

Present simple vs present continuous

Focus: present simple for habits and facts vs present continuous for now and this week; state verbs (know, want, need, understand)

GRAMMAR: USUALLY VS NOW

Habits and facts: **present simple** + usually / every day: I work in an office.
Now, this week: **present continuous** + at the moment / these days: I'm working.
State verbs: I **know** it (NOT I'm knowing), like, want, need, understand, prefer, own.

1 Choose the correct form.

Example: Tom works in sales, but today he _____ at reception. (works / is working) → is working

1. Lena _____ to work by metro every day. (goes / is going)
2. Listen! The manager _____ about the new project. (speaks / is speaking)
3. I _____ this word. Can you help? (don't understand / am not understanding)
4. We _____ on a report for a customer this week. (work / are working)
5. Our team _____ a meeting every Monday morning. (has / is having)
6. Sara _____ a new badge. Her old badge is at home. (needs / is needing)
7. Ben _____ lunch in the canteen at the moment. (has / is having)
8. Ali _____ two cars and a flat in the city centre. (owns / is owning)
9. Sorry, I can't talk now. I _____ a customer. (help / am helping)

2 Complete with the present simple or present continuous of the verbs.

Example: Mark _____ (not / like) long meetings. → doesn't like

1. Nina usually _____ (eat) at one, but today she _____ (eat) at her desk.
2. I _____ (not / know) the new boss very well.
3. Look! Maria _____ (wear) her new badge.
4. Omar _____ (not / work) at the moment. He's on his break.
5. They _____ (prefer) coffee to tea in the morning.
6. What _____ (you / do) at the moment? I'm writing a report.
7. This week a lot of staff _____ (work) from home because of the snow.
8. Ken _____ (not / like) meetings, but he _____ (go) to them every week.
9. Elena _____ (remember) all the customers' names.
10. The canteen _____ (open) at twelve every day.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 goes, 2 is speaking, 3 don't understand, 4 are working, 5 has, 6 needs, 7 is having, 8 owns, 9 am helping **2** 1 eats / is eating, 2 don't know, 3 is wearing, 4 isn't working, 5 prefer, 6 are you doing, 7 are working, 8 doesn't like / goes, 9 remembers, 10 opens

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