Present Tenses

CEFR B2 · All four present forms and the state/dynamic contrast

WS1 Perfect Simple vs Continuous · WS2 State vs Dynamic Meaning · WS3 Present for Future & Other Uses · WS4 Analysis & Writing · Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Present Perfect Simple vs Continuous

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B2 (CEFR)

Reference: Result vs Activity

The **present perfect simple** (have done) emphasises a completed result or quantity; the **present perfect continuous** (have been doing) emphasises the activity, its duration, or that it may be ongoing or recent. With *for/since*, both are possible but the emphasis differs.

Form	Emphasis	Example
Perfect simple	result / completion / amount	I've **written** three reports.
Perfect continuous	activity / duration / ongoing	I've **been writing** all day.
result visible now	simple	She's **painted** the room. (it's done)
explains a present state	continuous	She's tired; she's **been painting**.

Part A – Simple or Continuous?

1. You look exhausted! What _____ you _____ (do)?
2. I _____ (read) that book — here, you can borrow it.
3. They _____ (wait) for over an hour and are getting annoyed.
4. She _____ (send) fifty emails so far today.
5. It _____ (rain) — the streets are wet.

Part B – Explain the Difference

#	Pair	Difference in meaning
1	a) I've read your report. b) I've been reading your report.	
2	a) He's repaired the car. b) He's been repairing the car.	
3	a) We've lived here for years. b) We've been living here for years.	

Score: _____ / 20

Worksheet 2: State vs Dynamic Meaning

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B2 (CEFR)

Reference: Same Verb, Two Meanings

Some verbs are normally **state** verbs but can become **dynamic** with a different meaning, and then the continuous is possible. The continuous can also add a temporary, deliberate, or emphatic shade (*I'm loving it*). At B2 the choice is about meaning, not just rules.

Verb	State (simple)	Dynamic (continuous)
have	I **have** a car. (own)	I'**m having** lunch. (eat)
think	I **think** you're right. (opinion)	I'**m thinking** about it. (process)
see	I **see** what you mean. (understand)	I'**m seeing** the doctor. (meeting)
be	He **is** polite. (character)	He'**s being** polite. (behaving now)

Part A – Choose and Justify

Pick the correct form and note the meaning.

1. I _____ (think) this is a mistake. (opinion)
2. Quiet — she _____ (think) about her answer.
3. We _____ (have) a great time at the moment.
4. He _____ (be) really difficult today. (behaviour)
5. I _____ (see) the manager at three.

Part B – Which Meaning?

State whether the continuous signals a temporary/dynamic reading and paraphrase.

#	Sentence	Reading / paraphrase
1	"You're being very kind today."	
2	"I'm loving this weather."	
3	"She's tasting the soup." vs "The soup tastes good."	

Score: _____ / 25

Worksheet 3: Present for the Future & Other Uses

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B2 (CEFR)

Reference: Present Forms Beyond 'Now'

Present forms cover more than the present. The **present continuous** expresses fixed future arrangements; the **present simple** gives timetables and is required after time conjunctions (*when, as soon as, before, until*) and in first conditionals. Present forms also drive narration, headlines, and commentary.

Use	Form	Example
Future arrangement	present continuous	We'**re meeting** them tomorrow.
Timetable / schedule	present simple	The train **leaves** at six.
After time conjunctions	present simple	I'll call when I **arrive**.
First conditional	present simple	If it **rains**, we'll stay in.
Narration / commentary	present simple/continuous	He **passes**, he **shoots**…

Part A – Choose the Present Form

1. The film _____ (start) at 8 p.m. tonight. (schedule)
2. I _____ (see) the dentist on Friday. (arrangement)
3. Call me as soon as you _____ (get) home.
4. If she _____ (agree), we'll sign tomorrow.
5. We _____ (fly) to Berlin next week.

Part B – Correct the Future/Time-clause Error

#	Wrong sentence	Correction
1	I'll phone you when I will arrive.	
2	The conference starts — I go there next Monday. (arrangement)	
3	If it will rain, we cancel the trip.	
4	What time does the meeting starting?	

Part C – Rewrite in the Narrative Present

Rewrite this past-tense summary in the present simple (as used in plot summaries/ reviews).

> *A young woman moved to the city, found a job, and slowly discovered the truth about her family.*

_____

Score: _____ / 30

Worksheet 4: Analysis & Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B2 (CEFR)

Part A – Passage Analysis

These days more people are working from home than ever before. The trend has grown steadily since 2020, and companies have been rethinking how they operate. "I've saved hours of commuting," one employee says, "and I'm getting more done." Yet not everyone agrees. Managers worry that teams are losing cohesion, and some have already begun calling staff back. The debate isn't over: as the technology improves, the way we work keeps changing.

1. Find one example each of present simple, present continuous, present perfect simple, and present perfect continuous. State why each tense was chosen.
2. Why "has grown" but "have been rethinking"? Explain the simple/continuous contrast.
3. Identify the present simple used after a time conjunction and explain the rule.
4. Rewrite "I'm getting more done" in the present simple. How does the meaning shift?

Part B – Extended Writing

Write 160–190 words on a current trend or a change in your life or field. You must include and underline: (1) all four present forms at least once; (2) at least one present form used for the **future**; (3) one deliberate **state/dynamic** contrast; (4) consistent register.

#	Line
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

Four forms: _____ / 4 Future use: _____ / 1 Score: _____ / 35

Answer Key & Teacher Notes

For teacher use only — B2 Level, Present Tenses

Worksheet 1 – Part A

1 have … been doing · 2 have read (result: it's finished) · 3 have been waiting · 4 has sent (amount) · 5 has been raining (explains wet streets) / has rained (also acceptable)

Worksheet 1 – Part B (model)

1 a) finished — I know its contents; b) may be unfinished / emphasises the activity. · 2 a) the car is fixed (result); b) focuses on the activity, perhaps still ongoing/messy. · 3 little real difference with a stative-ish verb; (b) slightly emphasises duration/continuity.

Worksheet 2 – Part A

1 think · 2 is thinking · 3 are having · 4 is being · 5 am seeing

Worksheet 2 – Part B (model)

1 dynamic — "behaving kindly right now" (temporary behaviour, not permanent character). · 2 dynamic/emphatic — "enjoying it at the moment" (temporary, informal). · 3 "is tasting" = action of sampling (dynamic); "tastes good" = state/quality (perception).

Worksheet 3 – Part A

1 starts · 2 am seeing · 3 get · 4 agrees · 5 are flying

Worksheet 3 – Part B

1 … when I arrive. · 2 I'm going there next Monday. · 3 If it rains, we'll cancel… · 4 What time does the meeting start?

Worksheet 3 – Part C (model)

A young woman moves to the city, finds a job, and slowly discovers the truth about her family.

Worksheet 4 – Part A (model)

1 Simple: "people are working" is continuous (trend now); "one employee says" is simple (introducing speech); perfect simple: "has grown" (result/change to now); perfect continuous: "have been rethinking" (ongoing activity). "keeps changing" = simple for a repeated/general truth. · 2 "has grown" states a completed measurable change; "have been rethinking" foregrounds ongoing, incomplete activity. · 3 "as the technology improves" — present simple after the time conjunction *as* (no future form). · 4 "I get more done" reads as a general habit/fact rather than the temporary, ongoing sense of "I'm getting more done".

Worksheet 4 – Part B: Marking Rubric

Criterion	Descriptor	Marks
Range of forms	All four present forms used accurately	0–5
Present for future	Arrangement/schedule/time-clause use correct	0–4
State/dynamic contrast	One meaningful contrast handled well	0–3
Register & task	160–190 words; consistent register	0–3