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English tenses

PDF exercises with answers

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English tenses - exercises

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Present simple and continuous exercises _____

● Present simple

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● Present continuous

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Present simple: exercise 1 - verb to be _____

Complete the sentences with the present simple forms of the verb to be.

A: Where are we now?

B: You just in front of our house.

A: Are you hungry?

B: Yes, I a little bit hungry.

A: Is your sister at school?

B: No, she at school.

A: Where are your parents?

B: My mum and dad at work.

A: Is Peter your friend? And what about Bill?

B: Peter and Bill my best friends.

A: I think these stories are very interesting.

B: Really? The stories interesting at all.

A: How often are you ill?

B: Quite often. I very healthy.

A: Are Susan and Marion good at sport?

B: Well, Susan quite good at athletics, but Marion isn't.

A: Am I the best student in our class?

B: No, you I'm the best.

A: Where are you, Simon?

B: I'm afraid Simon here. He is at the shop.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 1 - verb to be

Answer key

You are (you're) just in front of our house.

Yes, I am (I'm) a little bit hungry.

No, she is not (isn't) at school.

My mum and dad are at work.

Peter and Bill are my best friends.

Really? The stories are not (aren't) interesting at all.

Quite often. I am not (I'm not) very healthy.

Well, Susan is quite good at athletics, but Marion isn't.

No, you are not (aren't). I'm the best.

I'm afraid Simon is not (isn't) here. He is at the shop.

Present simple: exercise 2 - yes/no questions _____

Complete this dialogue with do or does to make present simple questions.

Example:

Sue: My brother Mark goes to primary school.
Ann: (he - get up early?) Does he get up early?

Sue: My brother Mark goes to primary school.

Ann: (he - get up early?)

Sue: Yes, very early. His friends Jim and Kevin travel with him every day.

Ann: (they - travel by bus?)

Sue: Sometimes. On Mondays and Fridays Jim's father takes them by car. He is a teacher.

Ann: (he - teach at the same school?)

Sue: Yes, he does. He teaches English and history.

Ann: (your brother - like English?)

Sue: English is his favourite subject.

Ann: (you - help him with his homework?)

Sue: Never. My brother is the best student in his class.

Ann: (Jim and Kevin - attend the same lessons?)

Sue: No, they don't. They are two years older. But they meet for lunch.

Ann: (Mark - eat at a school canteen?)

Sue: Yes, because our mum and dad don't have the time to prepare his lunch.

Ann: (your parents - go to work?)

Sue: Yes, they do. My mum is a nurse and my dad is a doctor.

Ann: (they - work at a hospital?)

Sue: Only my mum.

Ann: (your brother - want to be a doctor?)

Sue: I don't know. But I want to be a nurse.



See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 2 - yes/no questions

Answer key

Does he get up early?

Do they travel by bus?

Does he teach at the same school?

Does your brother like English?

Do you help him with his homework?

Do Jim and Kevin attend the same lessons?

Does Mark eat at a school canteen?

Do your parents go to work?

Do they work at a hospital?

Does your brother want to be a doctor?

Present simple: exercise 3 - yes/no questions _____

Find mistakes and correct them. If a question is correct, put a tick next to it.

Examples:

Do your sister plays tennis? - Does your sister play tennis?

Does Sarah learn Spanish? ✓

1. Does your parents live in a house? in a house?

2. Do your brother and sister eat meat? meat?

3. Does Sam works on a computer? on a computer?

4. Do you think she is your best friend? your best friend?

5. Do she thinks you are her best friend? her best friend?

6. Do Jill's cat catch mice at night? mice at night?

7. Does Claire and Brad help in the garden? help in the garden?

8. Do Tim's dogs eat bones? bones?

9. Does her classmates do their homework? their homework?

10. Does your uncle and aunt watch football on TV? football on TV?

11. Do Mike's friend speaks English? English?

12. Do lions live in India? in India?

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 3 - yes/no questions

Answer key

1. Do your parents live in a house?
2. ✓
3. Does Sam work on a computer?
4. ✓
5. Does she think you are her best friend?
6. Does Jill's cat catch mice at night?
7. Do Claire and Brad help in the garden?
8. ✓
9. Do her classmates do their homework?
10. Do your uncle and aunt watch football on TV?
11. Does Mike's friend speak English?
12. ✓

Present simple: exercise 4 - wh questions _____

Liz is taking her English exam. Read the answers and complete the examiner's questions. Use why, what, where, who, how and the present simple forms.

Examiner: Your name is Elizabeth. your friends you?

Liz: My friends call me Liz.

Examiner: All right, Liz. ?

Liz: I live near here. Just round the corner.

Examiner: in your free time?

Liz: I play a lot of sports. And I sometimes read books.

Examiner: ?

Liz: My favourite sport is basketball.

Examiner: basketball?

Liz: Not very often. I usually play it once a week. At weekends.

Examiner: play it more often ?

Liz: Why? I don't play it more often because I have a lot of exams this year.

Examiner: Andbasketball with?

Liz: I play it with my friends from our neighbourhood. And sometimes with my schoolmates, too.

Examiner: Now I want to ask you about your friends, Liz.

..... ?

Liz: My best friend is Marjorie. Definitely.

Examiner: Marjorie, you say. Marjorie do?

Liz: She finished school last year. And now she works as a nurse.

Examiner: ?

Liz: She works at the local hospital.

Examiner: Thank you, Liz. And say hello to Marjorie. Good bye.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 4 - wh questions

Answer key

What do your friends call you?

Where do you live?

What do you do in your free time?

What is your favourite sport?

How often do you play basketball?

Why don't you play (do you not play) it more often?

And who do you play basketball with?

Who is your best friend?

What does Marjorie do?

Where does she work?

Present simple: exercise 5 - wh questions _____

Complete the following wh-questions in the present simple tense.

Example:

Who to school? (take-you)

Who takes you to school?

Who most? (you-miss)

Who do you miss most?

Who with? (you - stay)

Which first? (car - start)

Why fruit? (Derek - not eat)

What about it? (he - think)

Where ? (Joe and his wife - live)

How it? (your grandpa - do)

Who with you? (work)

Which ? (colour - you -prefer)

Why with housework? (Mary - not help)

What ? (annoy - you)

Where his bag? (he - put)

How ? (Mimi and her friend - speak)

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 5 - wh questions

Answer key

Who do you stay with?

Why doesn't Derek eat (does Derek not eat) fruit?

What does he think about it?

Where do Joe and his wife live?

How does your grandpa do it?

Who works with you?

Which colour do you prefer?

Why doesn't Mary help (does Mary not help) with housework?

What annoys you?

Where does he put his bag?

How do Mimi and her friend speak?

Present simple: exercise 6 - negative _____

Correct the wrong information. Use don't - doesn't in the present simple.

Example:

Mel Gibson comes from Britain.

Mel Gibson doesn't come from Britain. He comes from Australia.

The Earth moves around the Sun 150,000 kms away from it.

The Earth around the Sun 150,000 kms away from it. It's 150,000,000 kms.

Tourists go to Africa to see the Niagara Falls.

Tourists to Africa to see the Niagara Falls. They go to America to see them.

People in Switzerland speak Swiss.

People in Switzerland Swiss. They speak German, French and Italian.

The Amazon River ends in the Pacific Ocean.

The Amazon River in the Pacific Ocean. It ends in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Ayers Rock lies in the east of Australia.

The Ayers Rock in the east of Australia. It is in the middle of the continent.

The oldest skyscraper in the world stands in New York.

The oldest skyscraper in the world in New York. It's in Chicago.

The tallest trees in the world grow in France.

The tallest trees in the world in France. They are in California.

The cheetahs run up to 60 kilometres per hour.

The cheetahs up to 60 kms per hour. Their maximum speed is 120 kms per hour.

The ostrich lives in Australia.

The ostrich in Australia. It lives in Africa.

The Japanese people make Samsung mobile phones.

The Japanese people Samsung mobile phones. They are made in South Korea.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 6 - negative

Answer key

The Earth does not (doesn't) move around the Sun 150,000 kilometres away from it.

Tourists do not (don't) go to Africa to see the Niagara Falls.

People in Switzerland do not (don't) speak Swiss.

The Amazon River does not (doesn't) end in the Pacific Ocean.

The Ayers Rock does not (doesn't) lie in the east of Australia.

The oldest skyscraper in the world does not (doesn't) stand in New York.

The tallest trees in the world do not (don't) grow in France.

The cheetahs do not (don't) run up to 60 kilometres per hour.

The ostrich does not (doesn't) live in Australia.

The Japanese people do not (don't) make Samsung mobile phones.

Present simple: exercise 7 - the third person _____

Test 1

Fill the gaps with verbs in the simple present tense and use words ending in -s, -es and -ies.

Why Samuel wakes up early

Every day little Samuel (get) up early in the morning. He (hurry) downstairs and into the backyard. Where is she? Over there. His black and white kitten always (play) in the grass. Little Samuel (catch) her with both hands, (grab) her under her soft belly, (lift) her into the air and (kiss) her on her pink nose. Then he (carry) her into the kitchen to give her a small bowl of milk. But sometimes he just (watch) his kitten running on the grass. What a fast cat she is! She never (miss) a mosquito that (fly) low above the ground.

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Test 2

Use the following verbs in the present simple to complete the sentences.

choose - finish - go - practise - cry - love - push - make - study - mix - put - start - do - pass - help - fry
serve - taste - take - wash - fix - crash - let

My dear family

1. My brother Mike biology at university. He several exams every year and he always all his exams. He summer terms in June and the next term at the end of September.
2. My sister Frances guitar lessons and every day.
3. My aunt Fiona watching romantic stories and she sometimes
4. My mum usually shopping on Fridays. She a lot of things in her trolley and then she it in front of her.
5. My dad is crazy about cars. He always the best car he can afford. He it every weekend and all the breakdowns. He is a careful driver. He never
6. My grandma the best goulash in the world. My grandpa usually her. He beef meat and onions in oil and later the ingredients. My grandma the goulash in the freezer for a couple of days before she it. It much better!

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 7 - negative

Answer key

Test 1

gets up
hurries
plays
catches
grabs
lifts
kisses
carries
watches
misses
flie

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Test 2

1. My brother Mike **studies** biology at university. He **takes/does** several exams every year and he always **passes** all his exams. He **finishes** summer terms in June and **starts** the next term at the end of September.
2. My sister Frances **takes** guitar lessons and **practises** every day.
3. My aunt Fiona **loves** watching romantic stories and she sometimes **cries**.
4. My mum usually **goes** shopping on Fridays. She **puts** a lot of things in her trolley and then she **pushes** it in front of her.
5. My dad is crazy about cars. He always **chooses** the best car he can afford. Then he **washes** it every weekend and **fixes** all the breakdowns on his own. He is a careful driver. He never **crashes**.
6. My grandma **makes** the best goulash in the world. My grandpa usually **helps** her - he **fries** beef meat and onions in oil and later **mixes** the ingredients. My grandma **lets** the goulash in a freezer for a couple of days before she **serves** it. It **tastes** much better!

Present simple: exercise 8 - all forms _____

Complete the dialogues with correct forms of the present simple tense.

What the longest river in the world? (be)

The longest rivers the Amazon and the Nile. (be)

What in your free time? (do)

I anything. I just get bored. (not do)

Mrs Jolie, your son in my lessons. (sleep)

Oh, no. How long ? (sleep)

..... this your bag? (be)

No, it mine. (not be)

What about your children? to the same school? (go)

Annie to school. She is four. (not go)

Sue and Kam well-dressed today. (be)

Are you crazy? They well-dressed at all! (not be)

..... your husband a good driver? (be)

Well, he always his best. (try)

Greg is the best player in our team. He never the goal. (miss)

Really? How often? (score)

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple: exercise 8 - all forms

Answer key

What is (What's) the longest river in the world?

The longest rivers are the Amazon and the Nile.

What do you do in your free time?

I do not (don't) do anything. I just get bored.

Mrs Jolie, your son sleeps in my lessons.

Oh, no. How long does he sleep?

Is this your bag?

No, it is not (isn't) mine.

What about your children? Do they go to the same school?

Annie does not (doesn't) go to school. She is four.

Sue and Kam are well-dressed today.

Are you crazy? They are not (aren't) well-dressed at all!

Is your husband a good driver?

Well, he always tries his best.

Greg is the best player in our team. He never misses the goal.

Really? How often does he score?

Present continuous: exercise 1 - affirmative _____

Complete sentences with the verbs in brackets.

Example:

Listen. Little Gabriela again. (cry)
Listen. Little Gabriela is crying again.

Don't talk to me. I an email now. (write)

Susan is ill. She in the bed at the moment. (lie)

I'm not at home. I in London this month. (stay)

Peter this week. He has a part-time job. (work)

Can you smell it? Mum and dad something. (cook)

Don't turn off the TV, please. I a film. (watch)

I can hear Dominic. He from school. At last! (come)

I'm afraid my sister isn't here. She the shopping. (do)

Garry, please, stop. You so loudly. (sing)

What am I doing? I an interesting book. (read)

Where is Sam? - He his car in the garage. (mend)

What are you doing? - We to start the car. (try)

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present continuous: exercise 1 - affirmative

Answer key

Don't talk to me. I am (I'm) writing an email now.

Susan is ill. She is (She's) lying in the bed at the moment.

I'm not at home. I am (I'm) staying in London this month.

Peter is (Peter's) working this week. He has a part-time job.

Can you smell it? Mum and dad are cooking something.

Don't turn off the TV, please. I am (I'm) watching a film.

I can hear Dominic. He is (He's) coming from school. At last!

I'm afraid my sister isn't here. She is (She's) doing the shopping.

Garry, please, stop. You are (You're) singing so loudly.

What am I doing? I am (I'm) reading an interesting book.

Where is Sam? - He is (He's) mending his car in the garage.

What are you doing? - We are (We're) trying to start the car.

Present continuous: exercise 2 - affirmative _____

Use the verbs in brackets to make sentences in the present continuous.

Example:

(wait/here/I)
I'm waiting here.

(I - in Hastings - learn English)

..... this summer.

(in the street - Sarah and Sue - play)

..... at the moment.

(decorate - Maria - in York - her flat)

..... these days.

(just - look - we)

Can I help you? No, thank you.

(a shower - Luke - in the bathroom - take)

..... now.

(the sun - shine - and - sunbathe - we)

The weather is perfect.

(lie - I - in bed)

..... because I am not feeling well.

(nothing - do - you)

You can help me with the housework.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present continuous: exercise 2 - affirmative

Answer key

I am (I'm) learning English in Hastings this summer.

Sarah and Sue are playing in the street at the moment.

Maria is (Maria's) decorating her flat in York these days.

Can I help you? We are (We're) just looking.

Luke is (Luke's) taking a shower in the bathroom now.

The weather is perfect. The sun is (The sun's) shining and we are sunbathing.

I am (I'm) lying in bed because I am not feeling well.

You can help me with the housework. You are (You're) doing nothing.

Present continuous: exercise 3 - negative _____

Make negative answers.

Example:

Are your friends cooking now?

No, they are not cooking now.

Is your best friend eating chocolate?

No, my best friend chocolate.

Are you drinking milk right now?

No, I milk right now.

Is your brother playing the piano at the moment?

No, he the piano at the moment.

Am I writing this test with you?

No, you this test with me.

Are your parents singing a song at the moment?

No, they a song at the moment.

Are you wearing your grandma's shoes today?

No, I my grandma's shoes today.

Are you and your neighbours riding bikes just now?

No, we bikes just now.

Is your uncle and aunt sitting near you?

No, they near me.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present continuous: exercise 3 - negative

Answer key

No, my best friend is not (isn't) eating chocolate.

No, I am not (I'm not) drinking milk right now.

No, he is not (isn't) playing the piano at the moment.

No, you are not (aren't) writing this test with me.

No, they are not (aren't) singing a song at the moment.

No, I am not (I'm not) wearing my grandma's shoes today.

No, we are not (aren't) riding bikes just now.

No, they are not (aren't) sitting near me.

Present continuous: exercise 4 - questions

Part 1: Make positive questions.

What at the moment?
I am writing a test.

Which ?
I am doing exercise 1.

..... ?
No, nobody is helping me.

Which ?
Well, I am making question 3.

..... your friends ?
No, they are not making question 3.

And what now?
I'm sorry, I don't know what they are doing.

Part 2: Make negative questions.

Example:

*Our English teacher is speaking too fast.
(speak slowly)
Why isn't she speaking slowly?*

My brother is sleeping.

Why ? (get up)

I am working at a hotel now.

Why ? (learn for exams)

Our daughter is waiting over there.

Why ? (wait with you)

They are flying to Mumbai.

Why ? (fly to Calcutta)

My mum and dad aren't doing anything.

Why ? (watch a film)

I'm tired, so I'm drinking tea.

Why ? (drink coffee)

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present continuous: exercise 4 - questions

Answer key

Part 1:

What are you writing/doing at the moment?

Which exercise are you doing?

Is anybody helping you?

Which question are you making?

Are your friends making question 3?

And what are they doing now?

Part 2:

Why isn't he getting up? Why is he not getting up?

Why aren't you learning for exams? Why are you not learning for exams?

Why isn't she waiting with you? Why is she not waiting with you?

Why aren't they flying to Calcutta? Why are they not flying to Calcutta?

Why aren't they watching a film? Why are they not watching a film?

Why aren't you drinking coffee? Why are you not drinking coffee?

Present simple and continuous: exercise 1 - affirmative _____

Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets.

Look. He to us. (listen)

We at a hotel this week. (stay)

I to bed early on Sundays. (go)

My mum is at the shop. She a new dress. (buy)

Jill a lot of money. (have)

My grandma and grandpa usually on Sunday. (leave)

Please, slow down. You so fast. (drive)

We in Berlin each year. (meet)

Marion to discos on Fridays. (go)

He normally on time. (come)

I can't hear you. I a shower. (have)

Sam his homework at night. (do)

James is a student. But he this summer. (work)

We our friends very often. (see)

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 1 - affirmative

Answer key

Look. He is (He's) listening to us.

We are (We're) staying at a hotel this week.

I go to bed early on Sundays.

My mum is at the shop. She is (She's) buying a new dress.

Jill has a lot of money.

My grandma and grandpa usually leave on Sunday.

Please, slow down. You are (You're) driving so fast.

We meet in Berlin each year.

Marion goes to discos on Fridays.

He normally comes on time.

I can't hear you. I am (I'm) having a shower.

Sam does his homework at night.

James is a student. But he is (he's) working this summer.

We see our friends very often.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 2 - affirmative _____

Jumbled sentences - make sentences with words in brackets.

Example:

(live/here/I) - I live here.

(make - a phone call - Peter - now)

.....

(my car - I - on Saturdays - wash)

.....

(daily - practise - Joe and Bill)

.....

(I - at Oxford - study - this summer)

.....

(long hours - work - my brother)

.....

(just - dinner - have - Jill)

.....

(move - very often - we)

.....

(at the moment - Jim and Susan - watch TV)

.....

(teach - she - in New York - these days)

.....

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 2 - affirmative

Answer key

Peter is (Peter's) making a phone call now.

I wash my car on Saturdays.

Joe and Bill practise daily.

I am (I'm) studying at Oxford this summer.

My brother works long hours.

Jill is (Jill's) just having dinner.

We move very often.

Jim and Susan are watching TV at the moment.

She is (She's) teaching in New York these days.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 3 - questions _____

Make questions.

What time every day?

I start work at 7.

..... at weekends?

No, I don't work at weekends.

What at the moment?

I'm doing some research. I'm looking for something on the Internet.

..... much time on the Internet?

Yes, I do. I spend a lot of time working on my websites.

..... your wife ?

No, she doesn't go to work.

And what now?

She is doing some shopping, I think.

Where ?

She usually does the shopping at a shopping centre.

Who with shopping bags?

Our son helps her.

..... together today?

No, they aren't shopping together today.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 3 - questions

Answer key

What time do you start work?

Do you work at weekends?

What are you doing now?

Do you spend much time on the Internet?

Does your wife go to work?

And what is (what's) she doing now?

Where does she do the shopping?

Who helps her with shopping bags?

Are they shopping together today?

Present simple and continuous: exercise 4 - questions _____

Make questions with the verbs in brackets.

Example:

(where - work - you) - *Where do you work?*

(make - lunch - Joyce - at the moment)

..... ?

(travel - London - every week - they)

..... ?

(you - what - do - right now)

..... ?

(where - your brother - work)

..... ?

(want - you - some cake)

..... ?

(any help - your teacher - need)

..... ?

(Simon - why - now - cry)

..... ?

(just - my parents - come)

..... ?

(go out - your friends - at weekends)

..... ?

(do - at the moment/you - anything)

..... ?

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 4 - questions

Answer key

Is Joyce making lunch at the moment?

Do they travel to London every week?

What are you doing right now?

Where does your brother work?

Do you want some cake?

Does your teacher need any help?

Why is Simon crying now?

Are my parents just coming?

Do your friends go out at weekends?

Are you doing anything at the moment?

Present simple and continuous: exercise 5 - negative _____

Make negative answers.

Example:

Do you work at night? - I don't work at night.

Is your best friend wearing pyjamas now?

No, my best friend pyjamas.

Does your father get up at 9 every day?

No, he at 9 every day.

Are you drinking hot milk right now?

No, hot milk right now.

Are your parents still sleeping?

No, they anymore.

Does your neighbour sleep fifteen hours every day?

No, my neighbour fifteen hours every day.

Do all your friends play cricket on Fridays?

No, they cricket on Fridays.

Does your mother come from Brixham?

No, she from Brixham.

Is anybody watching you at the moment?

No, nobody me at the moment.

Am I helping you with this test?

No, you me with this test.

Do all people in your country speak English?

No, they English.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 5 - negative

Answer key

No, my best friend is not (isn't) wearing pyjamas.

No, he does not (doesn't) get up at 9 every day.

No, I am (I'm) not drinking hot milk right now.

No, they are not (aren't) sleeping anymore.

No, my neighbour does not (doesn't) sleep fifteen hours every day.

No, they do not (don't) play cricket on Fridays.

No, she does not (doesn't) come from Brixham.

No, nobody is (nobody's) watching me at the moment.

No, you are not (aren't) helping me with this test.

No, they do not (don't) speak English.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 6 - all forms _____

Complete each pair of sentences with the words in brackets.

(he - do)

Oh, no! Look! What

What for a living?

(wear)

She jumpers all the year round.

She a new jumper this week.

(your dad - speak)

..... French fluently?

..... on the phone now?

(read)

Don't give him this magazine. I it.

I sometimes buy this magazine. I it.

(Sarah - take)

The bathroom is occupied. a shower?

..... a shower in the morning or in the evening?

(not watch)

We the film anymore. You can turn it off.

We thrillers. We don't like them.

(stay)

When we are in Spain, we in an apartment.

We are on holiday. We in an apartment.

(not work)

Pete on the computer. He prefers tablets.

Pete on the computer. He is in the garden.

See the Answer Key on the next page.

Present simple and continuous: exercise 6 - all forms

Answer key

Oh, no! Look! What is (What's) he doing?
What does he do for a living?

She wears jumpers all the year round.
She is (She's) wearing a new jumper this week.

Does your dad speak French?
Is your dad speaking on the phone now?

Don't give him this magazine. I am (I'm) reading it.
I sometimes buy this magazine. I read it.

The bathroom is occupied. Is Sarah taking a shower?
Does Sarah take a shower in the morning or in the evening?

We are not (aren't) watching the film anymore. You can turn it off.
We do not (don't) watch thrillers. We don't like them.

When we are in Spain, we stay in an apartment.
We are on holiday. We are (We're) staying in an apartment.

Pete does not (doesn't) work on the computer. He prefers tablets.
Pete is not (isn't) working on the computer. He is in the garden.

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