



## Present simple and present continuous; Articles

### 1 Complete the sentences with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs given.

- 'Someone ..... (knock) at the door.' 'Oh, I know who it is. It's Peter.'
- Laura and Tom ..... (have) a very hard time at work at the moment.
- Physical exercise ..... (help) teenagers with concentration in school.
- 'What's the matter?' 'The children ..... (argue) about who is a better footballer.'
- I ..... (think) the expert's advice on retirement is very helpful.
- He ..... (see) his parents every week.
- Dad ..... (not realise) that I am not a little child any more.
- ..... Julian always ..... (switch off) the music when he studies?

### 2 Choose the best answer (a, b or c) to complete the sentences.

- My aunt speaks too fast. I ..... her.
  - don't understand
  - doesn't understand
  - am not understanding
- I ..... it's important for teenagers to have a private space.
  - am understanding
  - understand
  - understands
- Do you usually ..... to music at a reasonable volume?
  - listening
  - listen
  - are listening
- I feel angry when people ..... senior citizens with respect.
  - are not treating
  - not treat
  - don't treat
- Do you ..... a positive contribution to your family life?
  - make
  - making
  - makes
- My niece ..... with her friends right now – she's at home alone.
  - not plays
  - doesn't play
  - isn't playing

### 3 Find and correct the mistakes. Two of the sentences are correct.

- 'Hello, where are you?' 'Sorry, I can't talk now. I'm going into the office. Bye.'
- 'Where are you coming from?' 'I come from Italy. I was born in Venice.'
- His Spanish is not perfect, but he improves.
- We don't discuss a lot of things at dinnertime – we watch TV.
- My nephew is never accepting my advice.

### 4 Circle the correct alternative.

- About 30% of my classmates come from a/the country outside of Europe.
- My cousin and I are almost the/O same age.
- I always feel very nervous before a class presentation – I don't like speaking in the/O public.
- My brother is at university and my sister works as O/a nurse in a hospital.
- We have class discussions in English all the time, but I don't always have a/the confidence to speak.

### 5 Circle the correct alternative.

Grandparents can be very important in the life of (a) a/the teenager. They have more experience and more time than parents and can help teens make (b) a/the right choices. Teens often (c) think/are thinking their parents don't understand them and that their grandparents understand them better. A study called 'My second mum and dad' says that there are currently 14 million grandparents in the UK, that the number (d) increases/is increasing and that they (e) live/are living longer now. The study also says that many grandparents help teenagers with (f) a/O school work and go to school events when their parents are busy. More than 25% of teenagers say they talk to their grandparents about problems they (g) don't discuss/aren't discussing with their parents. Experts say that this generation of grandparents has (h) a/O better relationship with today's teenagers because many grandparents are (i) the/O younger now. One grandmother says, 'We are probably the only generation that (j) likes/is liking some of the same music our grandchildren like.'