PRESENT CONTINUOUS VS. SIMPLE PRESENT

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the Present Simple or Progressive as appropriate.

Dear Sara:

I ________ (write) to you from our hotel. I am on vacation with my family and we ________ (have) a great time.

The weather is great and the sun ________ (shine). I ________ (look) outside my window and people ________ (go) towards the beach. There are some people who ________ (swim) and others ________ (sail). I ________ (look) at some children. They ________ (play) near the edge of the beach and others ________ (build) sandcastles.

Just to left of our hotel ________ (be) a big restaurant. There, some people ________ (sit) and ________ (drink) some kind of drink that looks delicious. The waiter ________ (go) towards them and I am sure that they ________ (be) ready to order. They look very hungry. At the moment my brother ________ (watch) television and my mother ________ (tell) him to get ready because we ________ (go) to do some sightseeing. My father ________ (wait) for us downstairs, so I will write to you again later in the week.

Have to go now.

Love Paula.

B. Answer these questions about the reading.

1. Where is Paula?
2. How is the weather?
3. What is Paula doing at the moment?
4. What are the people doing?
5. What are the children doing?
6. Where is the restaurant located?
7. Do the people at the restaurant look hungry?
8. What is Paula’s brother doing?
9. What is Paula’s father doing?
10. Who is Paula writing?
Present Simple or Present Continuous?

A. Complete the following sentences using the simple present or the present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

1. Usually, Nathalie and Chantal __________________ (to play) in the park but today they __________________ (to study) at school. The teacher __________________ (to give) them an exam.

2. Kathy always ____________ (smile) in class and at the moment some of the other pupils ____________________ (smile) as well.

3. Right now the pupils ___________ (read) a book and the teacher ____________________ (to write) on the board.

4. Almost every day class_______(begin) at 8:00, but on Tuesdays the class _________(start) at 8:30.

5. She_______(like) to bake cookies, but at the moment she ____________(not bake) cookies because she___________(study) at school.

6. Dany __________(enjoy) climbing mountains during his vacation, but this year he_________(not take) any vacation because he________(study) English.

7. Martine___________(do) computer exercises at the moment. She usually _______(do) computer exercises on Tuesday.

8. Isabelle ___________(like) to read at the moment. She____________________(read) a very good novel about Ghandi.


10. Claude _______________(try) to complete the on-line exercises at the moment.