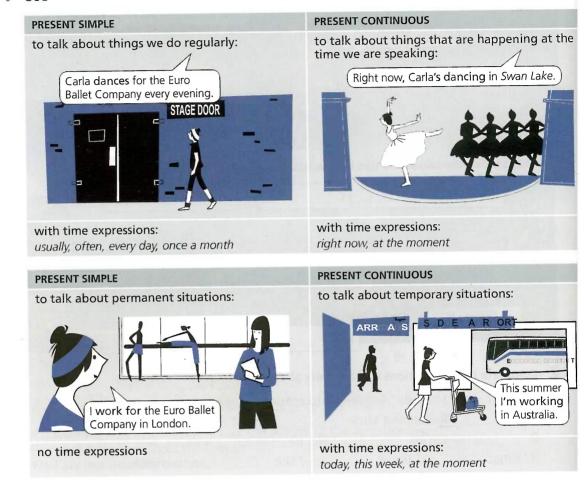
41 Present simple or present continuous?

1 Use



2 Verbs that don't use the continuous form

A

We don't normally use the continuous with these verbs:

- feeling verbs (like, love, hate, prefer, need, want):
 - x I-am liking music.
 - ✓ I like music.
- thinking verbs (agree, believe, forget, know, mean, remember, think, understand):
 - x My brother is agreeing with me.
 - ✓ My brother agrees with me.
- sense verbs (hear, see, smell, taste):
 - x That coffee is smelling delicious!
 - ✓ That coffee smells delicious!
- the verbs be, belong, contain, cost, own:
 - x That bag isn't belonging to me.
 - ✓ That bag doesn't belong to me.

The verb *think* has a different meaning in the present simple and the present continuous: What do you think of the show? (= What is your opinion?)
What are you thinking about? (= Tell me your thoughts now.)