

Now and then: What's he like?

Inglés 1º de Nivel Básico A1

Enseñanzas
Oficiales de
Idiomas

Lesson

Now and then
What's he like



Top tips



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In this unit, you will learn:

- To describe physical appearance
- To describe personality
- To describe pictures
- The difference in use between the present simple and the present continuous
- The different time expressions that collocate with the present simple and the present continuous

1. Describing people



MY FRIEND RITA



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Listen and answer the questions below:



1. What does Rita do?
2. Where does she work?
3. What is her build like?
4. What does she do every day?
5. What color is her hair?
6. Is it long or short?
7. What color are her eyes?
8. Is she a sad person?
9. What does she often do?

1. She's a social worker.
2. She works in a prison.
3. It's strong.
4. She works out.
5. It's brown.

6. It's long.
7. They're brown.
8. No, she isn't.
9. She talks a lot.

Check the script [here](#) >> [Documento de descarga](#). Listen again as you read.



MY FRIEND JOHN



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Listen and answer the questions below:



1. Why is John an extraordinary person?
2. What does John do?
3. What does John look like?

1. Because he's really intelligent and remembers many things.
2. He's a German teacher.
3. He's tall and quite handsome. He has short black hair and lively brown eyes.

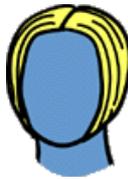
Check with the script [here](#) >> [Documento de descarga](#) and listen again as you read.

1.1. Physical appearance



To ask about physical appearance, we use the question:

What does (s)he look like?

 He's tall	 He's short	 He's fat	 He's thin	 He's young	 He's old	 She has blue eyes
 He has a beard	 She has black hair	 She has blond hair	 He has brown hair	 He has a moustache	 She has red hair	 She has white hair

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Listen and repeat



Do it yourself

Match the paragraph with the picture:

Picture 1

Picture 2

Picture 3

Picture 4



Imagen de Cornerhosue en [Flickr](#). Licencia [CC](#)



Imagen de Insapphowetrust en [Flickr](#). Licencia [CC](#)



Imagen de Felix Bernet en [Flickr](#). Licencia [CC](#)



Imagen de Perfect Boys en [Flickr](#). Licencia [CC](#)

Picture - She is short and fat. She is a bit ugly. Her hair is short and dark. Her eyes are dark. She is very friendly. She is a politician.

Picture - She is a very beautiful woman. She is tall and thin. Her hair is long and dark. Her legs are long. She is pretty. She is a famous actress.

Picture - He is short and thin. He is not very handsome. He is ugly. His hair is short and fair. He is very funny. He is a film actor and director.

Picture - He is tall and thin. His eyes are green. His hair is short and brown. He is very handsome. He is a famous actor.

Picture 3 - She is short and fat. She is a bit ugly. Her hair is short and dark. Her eyes are dark. She is very friendly. She is a politician.

Picture 2 - She is a very beautiful woman. She is tall and thin. Her hair is long and dark. Her legs are long. She is pretty. She is a famous actress.

Picture 1 - He is short and thin. He is not very handsome. He is ugly. His hair is short and fair. He is very funny. He is a film actor and director.

Picture 4 - He is tall and thin. His eyes are green. His hair is short and brown. He is very handsome. He is a famous actor.



In the previous lesson (Unit 5 Lesson 1), you learnt how to describe what someone is wearing as well as some parts of the body. In this section you have learnt how to describe someone's physical appearance. Now you can write a complete physical description like the ones below:

She's tall. She's very | He's fifty-four years old. | She's forty. She's tall

slim. She's got short hair. She's wearing a black dress and carrying a large umbrella.

He's short with long brown hair, brown eyes and a small mouth. He's wearing blue jeans and a red jacket.

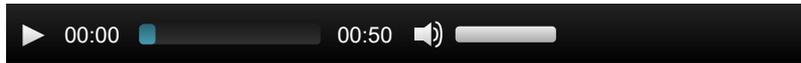
with long blond hair, blue eyes and a small nose. She's wearing a black jacket and a yellow skirt.

Write a paragraph describing your physical appearance.

- Write about what you look like:
 - your height
 - your build
 - your hair
 - your eyes
 - Write about what you are wearing today.
-

- happy - sad
- generous - mean
- friendly - unfriendly
- interesting - boring
- intelligent - stupid
- calm - nervous
- hard-working - lazy

Listen and Repeat



Do it yourself

Choose the opposite adjectives from the ones you are given previously in the sentence:

- a) My brother is happy, but your brother looks
- b) Peter is tall and thin, but Paul is and
- c) Mr. White's classes are funny, but Mrs. Smith's ones are
- d) Sharon is quite hard-working, but Nicole is
- e) My dress is black and long, but your dress is and

Now check your answers:

- a) My brother is happy, but your brother looks **sad**
- b) Peter is tall and thin, but Paul is **short** and **fat**
- c) Mr. White's classes are funny, but Mrs. Smith's ones are **boring**
- d) Sharon is quite hard-working, but Nicole is **lazy**
- e) My dress is black and long, but your dress is **white** and **short**



Think of **somebody** you like very much.

Take some minutes to prepare your monologue. Think of the vocabulary and structures you are going to need. Make an outline of the content. It should include the following information:

- Personal details and relationship to you
- What does (s)he look like?
- What does (s)he usually wear?
- What is (s)he like?
- Their daily routine
- Free-time activities
- Why you like them

When you are ready, record your monologue. Then listen back for self-assessment.



A colleague from work is going to stay at home for a few days. He has not met your family and is interested in learning a bit about them before meeting them. Describe the personality and physical appearance of your family members. Talk for about 3-4 minutes.

2. Simple or continuous?



Present Simple vs. Present Continuous

Present Simple	Present Continuous
<p>1. Universal truths/ permanent statements : Statements that do not change with time / are valid for a long period of time.</p> <p><i>They speak English in New Zealand.</i></p> <p><i>I live in Seville.</i></p> <p>2. Habits and routines.</p> <p><i>I never use sunflower oil in my salad.</i></p> <p><i>My sons go for a walk with friends every afternoon.</i></p> <p>3. State verbs: be, believe, hate, know, like, love, prefer, seem, understand, want...</p> <p><i>Jessica wants new furniture for her new house.</i></p> <p><i>The students don't understand my decision.</i></p>	<p>1. Actions that are happening at the moment of speaking.</p> <p><i>What are you doing ? I'm doing my homework.</i></p> <p>2. Temporary situations.</p> <p><i>I'm reading a really nice novel. (You are not necessarily reading it at the moment of speaking)</i></p> <p><i>This year Jack is studying German.</i></p>
Typical time expressions for the present	Typical time expressions for

simple

- **Frequency adverbs:** always, usually, often, sometimes, rarely, hardly ever, never.
- **Frequency expressions:** once a week, every day, on Tuesdays, every other month...

the present continuous:

- now, right now, at the moment, at present.



Watch the following presentation and write one sentence per slide. Choose the right tense corresponding to the time expression. Use the right person (*he* or *she*) and place the adverbial in the right position in the sentence.

Then check below.

http://www.slideshare.net/slideshow/embed_code/42714378

Presentación alojada en [slideshare](#)

1. She usually plays football.
2. He plays baseball twice a month.
3. He's playing American football today.
4. He's playing golf this week.
5. She sometimes plays basketball.
6. He's playing ice hockey right now.
7. He plays rugby once a week.
8. She plays field hockey on Mondays.
9. He often plays volleyball.
10. He's playing badminton now.
11. He never plays table tennis.
12. He's playing tennis at the moment.

2.1. Who's doing what?



Do it yourself



Imagen de elaboración propia con [Glogster](https://www.glogster.com/)

Look at the pictures above and choose the right name in the sentences below.

always gets up early, but today he's staying in bed till late because he's very tired.

is very shy and doesn't like singing in public, but now she's singing a song for a charity concert. is dancing along her song.

has a lot of free time. Now he's playing computer games.

eats a lot. Right now, he's having a huge cake.

doesn't usually do exercise, but today she's jogging.

is very hard-working but, at the moment, he's watching TV because he's very tired.

sometimes finds time to read. This afternoon he's reading a comic book.

is talking on the phone to his mother. He always phones her at the same time every day.

cooks very well. He's crying because he's peeling onions.

Austin always gets up early, but today he's staying in bed till late because he's very tired.

Charlotte is very shy and doesn't like singing in public, but now she's singing a song for a charity concert. Annie is dancing along her song.

Gareth has a lot of free time. Now he's playing computer games.

Harry eats a lot. Right now, he's having a huge cake.

Lucy doesn't usually do exercise, but today she's jogging.

Mark is very hard-working but, at the moment, he's watching TV because he's very tired.

Michael sometimes finds time to read. This afternoon he's reading a comic book.

Rob is talking on the phone to his mother. He always phones her at the same time every day.

Sam cooks very well. He's crying because he's peeling onions.



In your notebook, draw a table like this one and fill it in with the information from the sentences in the previous exercise. Underline time references. The first one has been done for you as an example. Then check below.

NAME	HABITS or ROUTINES	AT THE MOMENT
------	--------------------	---------------

Austin	<i>always gets up early</i>	<i>is staying in bed today</i>
Charlotte		
Annie		
Gareth		
Harry		
Lucy		
Mark		
Michael		
Rob		
Sam		

NAME	HABITS or ROUTINES	AT THE MOMENT
Austin	<i><u>always</u> gets up early</i>	<i>is staying in bed <u>today</u>.</i>
Charlotte	is very shy doesn't like singing	is singing <u>now</u>
Annie	-	is dancing along
Gareth	has a lot of free time	is playing computer games <u>now</u>
Harry	eats a lot	is having a huge cake <u>right now</u>
Lucy	doesn't <u>usually</u> do exercise	is jogging <u>today</u>
Mark	is very hard-working	is watching TV <u>at the</u>

		<u>moment</u>
Michael	<u>sometimes</u> finds time to read	is reading a comic book <u>this afternoon</u>
Rob	<u>always</u> phones his mum <u>at the same time every day.</u>	is talking on the phone
Sam	cooks very well	is crying

2.2. Now or never?



Do it yourself

1. Martin _____ to discos.

- a) never goes
- b) is never going

Solution

- 1. Correct
- 2. Incorrect

2. _____ computer games now?

- a) Do you play
- b) Are you playing

Solution

- 1. Incorrect
- 2. Correct

3. What _____ at the moment?

- a) do you read
- b) are you reading

Solution

1. Incorrect
2. Correct

4. Don _____ jeans and a white T-shirt.

- a) wears
- b) is wearing

Solution

1. Incorrect
2. Correct

5. I _____ the problem now.

- a) understand
- b) am understanding

Solution

1. Correct
2. Incorrect

6. What _____ in your free time?

- a) do you usually do
- b) are you usually doing

Solution

1. Correct
2. Incorrect

7. He _____ mushrooms.

- a) doesn't like
- b) isn't liking

Solution

1. Correct
2. Incorrect

8. Jim _____ a shower at the moment.

- a) has
- b) is having

Solution

1. Incorrect
2. Correct

9. Spanish people _____ plenty of seafood.

- a) eat
- b) are eating

Solution

1. Correct
2. Incorrect



Spot the mistakes and re-write the sentences in your notebook:

1. Millions of people are coming to Spain every year.
2. The Earth revolve around the Sun.
3. Tim and Jenny is playing basketball.
4. My dog plays with a ball at the moment.
5. I wear a Nike T-shirt.
6. What you doing now?
7. My friends are never coming to the park with me.
8. Mark isn't knowing the answer.

1. Millions of people come to Spain every year.
2. The Earth revolves around the Sun.
3. Tim and Jenny are playing basketball.
4. My dog is playing with a ball at the moment.
5. I am wearing a Nike T-shirt. / I'm wearing a Nike T-shirt.
6. What are you doing now?
7. My friends never come to the park with me.
8. Mark does not / doesn't know the answer.



Do it yourself

Jonas' free time

Read the text and choose the suitable verb tense.

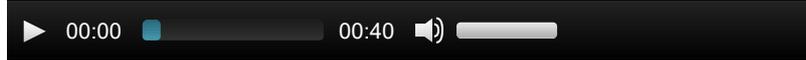
Jonas and works in Los Angeles, CA. He is a social worker. This year, he families with financial problems. When he is on holiday, he travelling. At the moment, he around Costa Rica with his girlfriend, Maria. This morning, Jonas and other tourists in the sea. Maria the sea, so she a book instead. Jonas and Maria usually to



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the cocktail bar in the evenings. The animation team always tourists busy with salsa lessons, live bands and more live entertainment. Jonas is really happy with the hotel and his holidays. He already he wants to repeat next year.

Now listen and check:



Jonas lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. He is a social worker. This year, he is helping families with financial problems. When he is on holiday, he likes travelling. At the moment, he is travelling around Costa Rica with his girlfriend, Maria. This morning, Jonas and other tourists are swimming in the sea. Maria hates the sea, so she is reading a book instead. Jonas and Maria usually go to the cocktail bar in the evenings. The animation team always keep tourists busy with salsa lessons, live bands and more live entertainment. Jonas is really happy with the hotel and his holidays. He already knows he wants to repeat next year.

2.3. Beatriz's email



Beatriz is writing an email to Emily.

Watch the presentation below. When you see the words [QUESTION PROMPT], ask a question aloud with the Wh-word you are given. Write the question down in your notebook. You'll see the answer to the question on the slide that follows. Then check if you asked the right questions below.

http://www.slideshare.net/slideshow/embed_code/44121066

Presentación alojada en [slideshare](#)

3. Revision



Moving on

TO FIND OUT MORE...



Imágenes cortesía de [UVic](#). Licencia [CC](#)

- [Present Simple vs Present Continuous](#)
- [Spoken interaction: Describing people](#) >> [Documento de descarga](#)
- [Spoken interaction: Describing people \(Guess who\)](#) >> [Documento de descarga](#)



REVISION AND EXTENSION OF PERSONALITY ADJECTIVES

http://www.slideshare.net/slideshow/embed_code/44121120

Presentación alojada en [slideshare](#)



REVISION OF THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS

You can use the flashcards below to practise speaking.

Describe what the different people are doing.

<https://en.islcollective.com/preview.php?id=21002&nodetails=false>

Presentación alojada en [islcollective](https://en.islcollective.com/)

Bite size



We have learnt:

- The difference in use between the present simple and the present continuous
 - The different time expressions that collocate with the present simple and the present continuous
-



We have learnt how to pronounce the vocabulary of physical appearance and personality



Physical appearance and personality



We have learnt how to ask about physical appearance and personality



Aspectos culturales.

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