

Unit one

Compare the meaning in the pair of sentences :

- **Klaus comes from Berlin.** (Present simple)
Klaus is coming from Berlin. (Present continuous)
 - **Present simple** is used for permanent or habitual actions. Klaus regularly comes from Berlin or is from Berlin.
 - **Present continuous** is used for actions happening right now or temporary actions. Klaus is currently on his way from Berlin.
- **You're very kind. Thank you.** (Present simple)
You're being very kind. What do you want? (Present continuous)
 - **Present simple** expresses a general fact or characteristic about the person (kindness is a quality of theirs).
 - **Present continuous** suggests that the kindness is a temporary behavior, possibly with some suspicion or special motive.
- **I've lived in Singapore for five years.** (Present perfect)
I lived in Singapore for five years. (Past simple)
 - **Present perfect** is used for actions that started in **the past and are still true or relevant in the present**. The person still lives in Singapore.
 - **Past simple** is used for actions that are completed. The person no longer lives in Singapore.
- **How do you do?** (Present simple)
How are you doing? (Present continuous)
 - **Present simple** is a formal greeting and doesn't ask for a real answer.
 - **Present continuous** is an informal way of asking about someone's current well-being or situation.