

10C An email home

Present simple or continuous?

Email B

New Message

Dear Jennifer,
Greetings from sunny Madrid! At the moment I'm sitting in a beautiful square, drinking ^a and eating chocolate cake! I sit ^b every afternoon and watch the people – it's really interesting. Two old men are playing chess and a young girl is ^c
Oh, I love it here!

But this isn't a holiday! Peter and I are studying Spanish for a month at the university. We're really enjoying it, but it's very hard work. We study for ^d hours every morning and classes start at 7:30. We normally get up at ^e Peter and I go to the university by scooter, which is quite dangerous – the traffic is crazy here! We're staying with ^f , who lives in the centre of Madrid.

Peter is enjoying it here, too and at the moment he's looking for ^g in the street markets. We usually go to a restaurant in the evening and eat ^h – food is very cheap here. We want to come back again next year.

Well, I can see Peter walking across the square – and he's carrying a(n) ⁱ ! I'll say goodbye now. See you next month!

Lots of love,
Penny

Email A

New Message

Dear Jennifer,
Greetings from sunny Madrid! At the moment I'm sitting ¹ , drinking coffee and eating ² ! I sit in the same café every afternoon and watch the people – it's really interesting. Two old men are ³ and a young girl is playing the guitar. Oh, I love it here!

But this isn't a holiday! Peter and I are studying ⁴ for a month at the university. We're really enjoying it, but it's very hard work. We study for four hours every morning and classes start at ⁵ We normally get up at six o'clock. Peter and I go to the university by ⁶ , which is quite dangerous – the traffic is crazy here! We're staying with Franco, a friend from school, who lives ⁷

Peter is enjoying it here, too and at the moment he's looking for souvenirs in the street markets. We usually ⁸ in the evening and eat meat or fish – food is very cheap here. We want to ⁹ next year.

Well, I can see Peter walking across the square – and he's carrying a very big box! I'll say goodbye now. See you next month!

Lots of love,
Penny

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Instructions

You will need: one copy of Email A or Email B per student

- Pre-teach the following items of vocabulary: *square* (in a town), *play chess*, *dangerous*, *carry*, *box*, *souvenirs*.
- Divide the class into two groups, A and B. Give a copy of *Email A* to all the students in group A, and a copy of *Email B* to the all the students in group B. Allow students time to read their version of the email and ask any questions.
- Students work in pairs or groups with people who have the same email and write down the questions they need to ask in order to complete it. The questions should be either in the Present simple or Present continuous. For example, students with *Email A* should write: *Where is she sitting (at the moment)?* for question 1 and: *What time do (their) classes start?* for question 5.
- Pair one student with *Email A* with one student with *Email B*. Students are not allowed to look at each other's emails. Students take it in turns to ask the questions they have prepared and complete the gaps.
- When they have finished, they can look at their partner's email and check their answers.