

## Chapter 2. Verbs: Expressing the Present

**Exercise 1.** Fill in the blanks with the simple present tense of the verbs given in the brackets:

Pangolin, or ant-eater, \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a mammal but \_\_\_\_\_ (differ) from other mammals in many ways. It \_\_\_\_\_ (have) large, overlapping scales on the body, which \_\_\_\_\_ (protect) it in times of danger. The underside of its body \_\_\_\_\_ (have) coarse hair. If someone \_\_\_\_\_ (disturb) a pangolin, or if a pangolin \_\_\_\_\_ (smell) danger, it \_\_\_\_\_ (curl) itself into a ball. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) difficult to unroll the animal when it \_\_\_\_\_ (be) in this state.



What \_\_\_\_\_ pangolins \_\_\_\_\_ (eat)?

It should be obvious that pangolins \_\_\_\_\_ (feed) on ants which they \_\_\_\_\_ (dig) out with their long claws.

Pangolins \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in burrows but \_\_\_\_\_ (be) also good climbers. A pangolin's tail \_\_\_\_\_ (help) it in climbing a tree by providing it the necessary grip.

We \_\_\_\_\_ (not see) many pangolins in the plains of India. We \_\_\_\_\_ (come) across the Indian pangolin in the lower slopes of the Himalayas and the Chinese pangolin in Assam.

**Exercise 2.** Fill in the blanks with the **simple present** or the **present continuous tense** of the verbs given in the brackets:

1. Suhani : I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to bed now. Good night.

Shuchi : I thought you \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to bed after 11 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (you not feel) well tonight?

2. We \_\_\_\_\_ (like) to watch the sun setting on the horizon. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) such a captivating sight that we never \_\_\_\_\_ (want) to miss it. Today, however, a cloud \_\_\_\_\_ (hide) the sun behind it. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not think) we will be able to see the sunset.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (she know) that Raghav \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to Delhi in the evening? Raghav \_\_\_\_\_ (live) at Agra but \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) Delhi at least twice a month. This time, however, he \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to Delhi after a gap of two months.

4. There \_\_\_\_\_ (be) lots of flower plants in my lawn. I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) fond of flowers and \_\_\_\_\_ (take) care of them myself. Now I \_\_\_\_\_ (plant) a fern which my friends \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) me is very rare.