

VERBS (2)

Tenses (02) - Present Continuous (4)

The Present Continuous: in context

2 min

What is the present continuous or present progressive?



He *is relaxing*.



They *are planting* a tree.

The Present Continuous: Use and Formation




8 min

When do we use the present continuous?

Now	I <i>am reading</i> my English book.
Now - long actions	She <i>is studying</i> to become a doctor.
Near future	We <i>are going</i> to a concert tonight.
Repetition, judgment, irritation	He <i>is</i> always <i>talking</i> .

How do we form the present continuous?

Verb: to work

Affirmative form 	Negative form 	Questions 
I <i>am working</i>	I <i>am not working</i>	<i>Am</i> I <i>working?</i>
he/she/it <i>is working</i>	he/she/it <i>is not working</i>	<i>Is</i> he/she/it <i>working?</i>
you/we/they <i>are working</i>	you/we/they <i>are not working</i>	<i>Are</i> you/we/they <i>working?</i>

Examples:

The boy ***is playing*** video games.

We ***are not listening*** to the radio.

Are you going to the park this afternoon?

Yes, we ***are going*** to the park this afternoon. = Yes, we ***are***.

No, we ***are not going*** to the park this afternoon. = No, we ***are not***.

When we speak, we use contractions. A contraction is two words put together.

Example:

I'm = I am

isn't = is not

aren't = are not

're not = are not

Language Tip on Verbs Rarely used in the Present Continuous

5 min

Some verbs are rarely used in the present continuous, such as:

- abstract verbs: to be, to know, to understand, to want, to need, etc.
- possession verbs: to possess, to own
- emotion verbs: to like, to dislike, to love, to hate, etc.

Writing Exercise

5 min

Complete with the present continuous in the affirmative form.

1. Josh and Sam _____ their homework. (to do)
2. We _____ a presentation for tomorrow. (to prepare)
3. I _____ a cake for Monday. (to bake)
4. You _____ a book. (to read)
5. Listen! The baby _____. (to cry)
6. They _____ in the ocean. (to swim)
7. Hurry up! I _____ for you. (to wait)
8. The door is closed, because she _____ her lesson. (to learn)
9. I am not sure if they _____ to the conference tomorrow. (to go)
10. He _____ a big sandwich. (to eat)

Writing Exercise

5 min

Complete with the present continuous in the negative form.

1. Some children _____ to the teacher. (to listen)
2. My manager _____ to me. (to talk)
3. The boy _____ on his geography book. (to draw)
4. The customer _____ the promotion. (to look at)

5. I _____ the movie. (to watch)
6. The students _____ during the lesson. (to dream)
7. We _____ their offer. (to consider)
8. It _____ today. (to rain)
9. She _____ to the conference. (to go)
10. They _____ their time. (to take)

Writing Exercise

5 min

Write questions.

Example: Dave is playing the piano. Is Dave playing the piano?

1. You are looking for an apartment.

2. They are trying to find their way.

3. Franck is driving too fast.

4. She is drinking water.

5. I am going in the right direction.

6. We are calling the wrong number.

7. Her supervisor is always screaming.

8. You are visiting your friends in Louisiana.

9. It is snowing today.

10. Sharon and Kate are reading the map.

Speaking Exercise with the Instructor

5 min

Listen to your teacher's questions. Then, answer.

Example: Are you listening to the radio now? No, I am not (listening to the radio).

1. Are you learning English?
2. Are you looking at your computer?
3. Am I speaking too fast?
4. Is it raining today?
5. Is a colleague listening to this conversation?

Speaking Exercise with the Instructor

5 min

Ask your teacher 3 questions.

1. Are you _____?
2. Is it _____?
3. _____?

Speaking Exercise with the Instructor

5 min

Tell your teacher what the people are doing in this picture.



Watch the Video!

10 min

With this video, you will practice the present continuous. It is a slide show with questions at the end.

Watch the video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rQqdSagoOU&feature=related>

Watch the video again and give the answers to the questions at the end of the video:

1. She / cook: _____
2. She / take a bath: _____
3. What / she / do / ? : _____
4. She / dance: _____
5. What / she / do / ? : _____
6. She / drink water: _____
7. What / they / do / ? : _____
8. They / eat: _____
9. What / he / do / ? : _____
10. He / read: _____

Quiz

10 min

True or False?

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. I use the present continuous to speak about repeated actions. | true | false |
| 2. I use the present continuous to speak about my daily routine. | true | false |
| 3. I use the present continuous to speak about what is happening now. | true | false |
| 4. I use the present continuous to speak about my current project. | true | false |

What verbs in this list are rarely used in the present continuous?

to want, to go, to like, to take, to see, to know, to own, to buy, to need

What is a correct answer to the question: Are you going to the party?

- a. Yes, I will.
- b. Yes, I am.
- c. Yes, I am going to.
- d. Yes, I do.

Choose the correct answer:

- 1. The Australian team _____ against the Russian team. (playing / is playing)
- 2. Americans _____ Independence Day this weekend. (is celebrating / are celebrating)
- 3. _____ they preparing the meeting? (Are / Do)
- 4. We _____ our teeth. (are'nt brushing / aren't brushing)
- 5. I _____ in the shower. (am singing / am sing)
- 6. She _____ her vacation. (aren't enjoying / is enjoying)