

GRAMMAR

You can use the Present Progressive to talk about future, in the case of arrangements that are planned.

Examples:

I'm having dinner with friends tonight.

She's meeting David at the train station tomorrow.

My friends are coming to my house this weekend.

Certain verbs, actions or situations cannot be used with the present progressive with future meaning because they are not part of an arrangement. The present progressive can only be used when an action or situation can logically be planned in advance.

Examples:

~~My leg is hurting next Friday.~~ It is NOT possible.

~~He is having an accident in July.~~ It is NOT possible.

~~It's raining next week.~~ It is NOT possible.



Activity 2

Use these words to write sentences. Use the Present Progressive.

1. I – not – go out – tonight. *I'm not going out tonight.*
2. I – meet – my friends – this evening. _____
3. Tom – not – come – to the party on Thursday. _____
4. My sister – get married – next December. _____
5. I – not – go to London – tomorrow. _____
6. I – stay at home – tonight. _____
7. I – go to the theatre – on Monday. _____
8. George – go to the dentist – on Friday. _____
9. Alice – go on holiday – to Mexico. _____
10. Bob – play football – on Saturday. _____

GRAMMAR

Questions with the Present Progressive.

Compare statements, **Yes/No questions** and **Wh- questions**.

Statement	Yes / No Question and Short Answer	Wh- Question
You are working as a carpenter.	Are you working full time? Yes, I am.	How many hours are you working? I'm working 8 hours daily.
They are doing exercise.	Are they doing yoga? No, they're not.	What kind of exercise are they doing? They are doing pilates.
Judy isn't watching TV.	Is she watching TV? No, she isn't.	Why isn't Judy watching TV? Because she is studying.

Activity 3

Use the words given to make Yes / No questions or Wh-questions. Fill in the second blank to complete with the answer.

1. Those men/ play

A: Are those men playing checkers?

B: No, they aren't. They're playing chess.

2. Where / Jack/ take piano lessons

A: Where is Jack taking piano lessons?

B: He is taking piano lessons at home.

3. Marge/design a website

A: _____

B: _____

4. When/ Ben and Pedro/ leave the hotel

A: _____

B: _____

5. Betty and Charles/take art classes

A: _____

B: _____

6. What time/they/ have lunch

A: _____

B: _____

Activity 5

My ideal vacation

Part A. Plan your ideal summer vacation and write a paragraph.



Mention the following things:

1. Where are you going?	4. Which transportation are you using?
2. When are you going? (Exact date)	5. What things are you bringing?
3. With whom are you going?	6. When are you returning?

This coming summer I'm beginning my ideal vacation.

131

BLOCK III Here and now

GRAMMAR

SIMPLE PRESENT AND PRESENT PROGRESSIVE

Form

The Simple Present	The Present Progressive
Grandma uses e-mail.	Marc is receiving a message.
She doesn't use a smart phone.	He isn't getting a phone call.
Does she use the Internet? Yes, she does.	Is he receiving a message from his friend? Yes, he is.
When does she use the Internet?	How is he receiving a message?
Why doesn't she use a smart phone?	Why isn't he receiving a message from his friend?

Use

133

now

Examples	Explanation
People use their phones to text. I sometimes send photos to my grandmother. Older people prefer to talk on the phone.	We use the simple present for: - a general truth. - a habitual activity. - a custom.
I'm getting a text message right now. My grandfather is learning about technology. Technology is growing quickly.	We use the present continuous for: - an action that is in progress now. - a longer action in progress at this general time. - a recent trend.
A: What does she do (for a living)? B: She's an English teacher. A: What is she doing now? B: She's texting her grandson.	"What does she do?" asks about a job or profession. "What is she doing?" asks about an activity now.

Activity 1

Complete with the simple present or the present progressive form of the verbs given.

Conversation between a grandmother and grandson:

A: You re eating and working (eat and work) on your essay at the same time.

B: That's not a problem, Grandma.

A: What _____ (you/eat) ? Is that a hamburger?

B: No, it isn't. It's a veggie burger. I never _____ (eat) meat.

A: You don't eat enough. Look at you. You're so thin.

B: I _____ (try) to lose weight.

A: You always _____ (eat) in front of your computer. Take a break.

I _____ (make) soup now. When it's ready, please come to the table.

B: But I _____ (work) on something important now.

A: How is that possible? You _____ (eat and listen) to music too.

B: I always _____ (listen) to music when I _____ (work or study)

A: Whenever I _____ (work), I _____ (concentrate) on my work.

I _____ (not/do) other things at the same time.

B: You _____ (not/understand) the world of young people. We often multitask.

A: You're right. I don't.



We don't use these verbs in the present progressive: like, love, know, live, remember, and understand.

Activity 2

Circle the correct answer.

1. I usually **listen / am listening** to rock music.
2. What is she doing? She **listens / is listening** to music.
3. My professor always **is speaking / speaks** very slowly.
4. What are you doing tonight? We **are going / go** to see a movie.
5. He normally **drives / is driving** very fast.
6. I never **am knowing / know** what to expect.
7. I **go / am going** home right now.
8. (Generally) I **love / am loving** Mexican food.
9. Those girls **are going / go** out every Friday.
10. I **like / am liking** classical music.
11. I always **am reading / read** before I go to sleep.
12. She **speaks / is speaking** French, but she doesn't speak Italian.
13. She **speaks / is speaking** right now.
14. Next week we **go / are going** to the theater.
15. How do you feel? I **am feeling / feel** great!
16. Listen I **am trying / try** to explain this to you.
17. Tomorrow I **am going / go** to see my friend.

135

BLOCK III Here and now

Activity 3

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs from the box.

have start teach drink read eat listen

This is Mary Queen. She is a teacher and she _____ children in primary school. It's 7:40 on Tuesday morning. She is in her kitchen and she _____ breakfast. She usually _____ a cup of coffee and _____ a toast for breakfast. Now she _____ the newspaper and she _____ to the news on the radio. She usually _____ work at 9:15 p.m.



come speak (2) teach

It is 10:15 a.m. now and Mary is at school.

At the moment, she _____ English to her class. Children in her class _____ from Russia, Spain, and Belgium. They _____ English at home. Mary is a good teacher and she _____ English very well.

