

### 3-7 USING THE PRESENT PROGRESSIVE TO EXPRESS FUTURE TIME

<p>(a) Tom <b>is going to come</b> to the party tomorrow.          (b) Tom <b>is coming</b> to the party tomorrow.          (c) We're <b>going to go</b> to a movie tonight.          (d) We're <b>going</b> to a movie tonight.          (e) I'm <b>going to stay</b> home this evening.          (f) I'm <b>staying</b> home this evening.          (g) Ann <b>is going to fly</b> to Chicago next week.          (h) Ann <b>is flying</b> to Chicago next week.</p>	<p>The present progressive can be used to express future time. Each pair of example sentences has the same meaning.          The present progressive describes <i>definite plans for the future, plans that were made before the moment of speaking</i>.          A future meaning for the present progressive is indicated either by future time words (e.g., <i>tomorrow</i>) or by the situation.*</p>
<p>(i) You're <b>going to laugh</b> when you hear this joke.          (j) <b>INCORRECT:</b> You're <i>laughing</i> when you hear this joke.</p>	<p>The present progressive is NOT used for predictions about the future. In (i): The speaker is predicting a future event. In (j): The present progressive is not possible; laughing is a prediction, not a planned future event.</p>

\*COMPARE: Present situation: *Look! Mary's coming. Do you see her?*

Future situation: *Are you planning to come to the party? Mary's coming. So is Alex.*

Directions: Complete the dialogues with any of the following verbs that make sense. Use the present progressive if possible.

<i>cut</i>	<i>go</i>	<i>spend</i>
<i>do</i>	<i>leave</i>	<i>stay</i>
<i>drive</i>	<i>meet</i>	<i>take</i>
<i>fly</i>		

1. A: What **are** you **doing** tomorrow afternoon?

B: I **am** going to the mall.

A: Why?

B: I **am going** shopping for some new clothes. How about you?

What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow afternoon?

A: I \_\_\_\_\_ to a movie with Tom. After the movie, we \_\_\_\_\_ out to dinner. Would you like to meet us for dinner?

B: No, thanks. I can't. I \_\_\_\_\_ Heidi at 6:30 at the new seafood restaurant on Fifth Street.

2. A: What courses \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ this year?

B: I \_\_\_\_\_ English, biology, math and psychology.

A: What courses \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ this year?

B: I \_\_\_\_\_ English literature, chemistry, calculus and history.

A: That should keep you busy!

3. A: I \_\_\_\_\_ on vacation tomorrow.

B: Where \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_?

A: To San Francisco.

B: How are you getting there? Are you \_\_\_\_\_ your car?

A: I \_\_\_\_\_. I have to be at the airport by seven tomorrow morning.

B: Do you need a ride to the airport?

A: No, thanks. I \_\_\_\_\_ a taxi. Are you planning to go somewhere over vacation?

B: No. I \_\_\_\_\_ here.

4. A: Stop! Annie! What \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_?

B: I \_\_\_\_\_ my hair, Mom.

A: Oh dear!



5. A: You haven't seen my passport, have you?

B: No. Why?

A: I need it because I \_\_\_\_\_ for Taipei next Monday.

B: Oh? How long will you be there?

A: A week. I \_\_\_\_\_ the first few days with my brother, who \_\_\_\_\_ to school there. After that I \_\_\_\_\_ some old friends I went to school with in Australia several years ago. They've invited me to be their house guest.

B: Sounds like a great trip. Hope you find your passport.