

# 40 Present continuous (2)



## 1 Form

| Yes/No QUESTIONS |             |               | SHORT ANSWERS         |                         |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Am               | I           |               | Yes, I am.            | No, I'm not.            |
| Is               | he/she/it   | sitting here? | Yes, he/she/it is.    | No, he/she/it isn't.    |
| Are              | we/you/they |               | Yes, we/you/they are. | No, we/you/they aren't. |

| Wh- QUESTIONS |     |             |  |          |
|---------------|-----|-------------|--|----------|
| What          | am  | I           |  | doing?   |
| Where         | is  | he/she/it   |  | going?   |
| Why           | are | we/you/they |  | running? |

In questions, we put *am/is/are* before the subject of the sentence.

We put the *-ing* form after the subject:

*What **are** you **studying** this term?*

*Is she **listening** to the radio?*

- ! ~~X Are waiting you for me?~~
- ~~X Waiting are you for me?~~
- ✓ **Are you waiting for me?**

- ! We don't usually repeat the main verb when we answer questions:

*Is that man **phoning** the police?* ~~X Yes, he is phoning.~~ ✓ **Yes, he is.**

~~X No, he isn't phoning.~~ ✓ **No, he isn't.**

- ! We don't use the short form of the verb in short answers with *yes*.

*Is she sleeping?* ~~X Yes, she's.~~  
✓ **Yes, she is.**

## 2 Use

We often use the present continuous to talk about what is happening in pictures and photos:

*What **are** they **doing**?*

*– They're **watching** a film.*

That's an interesting painting. Is that woman writing something?

No, she isn't. She's reading a letter.

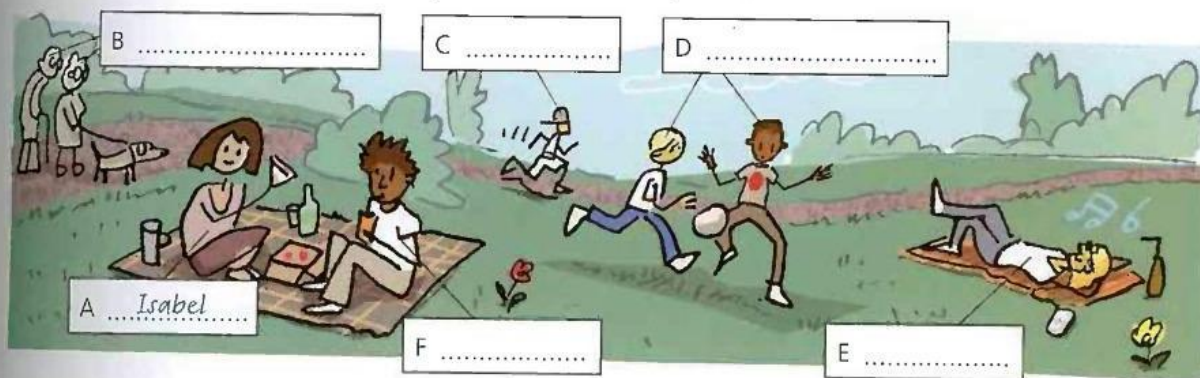


## Practice

- 1 a **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the text. Use the present continuous forms of the verbs in brackets ().

It's a lovely summer afternoon in the park. Robert and Mick (0) are playing (play) football. Miranda (1) is listening (listen) to some music and Carlos (2) is running (run). My friends Isabel and Rashid (3) are having (have) a picnic – Isabel (4) is eating (eat) a sandwich and Rashid (5) is drinking (drink) a cola. Over there I can see my neighbours, Mr and Mrs Berenson – they (6) are taking (take) their dog for a walk.

- b Now put the correct names by the letters in the picture.



- 2 Complete these questions and answers about the picture in Exercise 1.

- 0 Is Miranda listening to music? Yes, she is.
- 1 Are Robert and Mick playing tennis? No, they are not.
- 2 Is Carlos running? No, he is walking, he's going to the toilet.
- 3 What is Isabel doing? She is eating a sandwich.
- 4 What are Mr and Mrs Berenson doing? They are taking their dog for a walk.
- 5 Is Rashid drinking a burger? No, he is drinking.

- 3 Write the questions and short answers.

- 0 it / rain / today? / No, Is it raining today? No, it isn't.
- 1 you / do / your homework? / Yes, I am.
- 2 Steven / cook lunch? / No, he isn't.
- 3 the / children watch TV? / Yes, they are.
- 4 we / wait / for somebody? / No, we aren't.
- 5 Elizabeth / stay / with her grandparents / this week? / Yes, she is.

- 4 Write true answers.

- 0 What are you doing at the moment? I'm doing my homework.
- 1 What are you studying this year? Maths and English.
- 2 Where are you sitting right now? In the classroom.
- 3 What are you looking at? The teacher.