

LEARNING UNIT # 2/ PRESENT CONTINUOUS

How can you form statements, questions, and short answers in the *present continuous tense*? Study the **grammar reference charts** below.



When do we use the present progressive?

Happening Now

It is snowing.
She is eating lunch now.
I'm driving my new car.

Temporary Actions

I'm working in New York
this week.
I'm staying here temporarily.

Fixed Plans

(often in the near future)
I'm going out after work today.
We're leaving early today.

Trends

More and more people
are using their phones
to access Facebook.

Longer Actions in Progress Now

She's studying to be a lawyer.
He's training for the Olympics.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKzG_ZS-Ydg

SPELLING RULES



Words with one Syllable

✚ Verbs that end in -e (make / write etc.) → eing: make → *making* write → *writing* drive → *driving*

✚ Sometimes a word ends in a vowel + a consonant. For example: get, run, swim.

Before adding -ing, the consonant at the end is 'doubled'.

get → *getting* run → *running* swim → *swimming*

✚ **Do NOT** double the letter if the word ends in two consonants.

help → *helping* talk → *talking* work → *working*

✚ **Do NOT** double the letter if the word ends in two vowels + a consonant. look → *looking* read → *reading* speak → *speaking*

✚ **Do NOT** double the letter if the word ends in -w or -x or -y

snow → *snowing* fix → *fixing* buy → *buying*

10 Examples of Present Continuous sentences

1. I **am** currently **writing** an essay.
2. You **are** **watching** TV right now.
3. She **is** **studying** for her exams.
4. He **is** **playing** football with his friends.
5. They **are** **having** a picnic in the park.
6. We **are** **cooking** dinner for tonight.
7. The kids **are** **playing** with their toys.
8. The sun **is** **setting** in the horizon.
9. The birds **are** **chirping** in the trees.
10. The teacher **is** **explaining** the lesson to the class.



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10 Examples of Present Continuous negative sentences

1. I **am** currently **not** **writing** an essay.
2. You **are not** **watching** TV right now.
3. She **is not** **studying** for her exams.
4. He **is not** **playing** football with his friends.
5. They **are not** **having** a picnic in the park.
6. We **are not** **cooking** dinner for tonight.
7. The kids **are not** **playing** with their toys.
8. The sun **is not** **setting** in the horizon.
9. The birds **are not** **chirping** in the trees.
10. The teacher **is not** **explaining** the lesson to the class.



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10 Examples of Present Continuous interrogative sentences

1. **Are** you currently **writing** an essay?
2. **Are** you **watching** TV right now?
3. **Is** she **studying** for her exams?
4. **Is** he **playing** football with his friends?
5. **Are** they **having** a picnic in the park?
6. **Are** we **cooking** dinner for tonight?
7. **Are** the kids **playing** with their toys?
8. **Is** the sun **setting** in the horizon?
9. **Are** the birds **chirping** in the trees?
10. **Is** the teacher **explaining** the lesson to the class?



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Non-Action (Stative) Verbs

Some verbs **do not describe actions**. These verbs are called non-action verbs. They are also called stative verbs. **Do not use non-action verbs in the present-progressive tense, even when something is happening right now.**

1. Some non-action verbs express emotions.

admire	adore	appreciate	care	detest	dislike	doubt
envy	fear	hate	hope	like	love	mind
		prefer	want			need

Example:

✓ Carol **loves** (love) her grandmother.

✗ Carol *is loving* her grandmother.

✓ Doug **likes** (like) soccer.

✗ Doug *is liking* soccer.

2. Some non-action verbs describe senses.

feel	hear	notice	observe	perceive	see	smell	taste
✓ The music (sound) romantic.	✓ Yoko (feel) upset.						
✗ The music <i>is sounding</i> romantic.	✗ Yoko <i>is feeling</i> upset.						
✓ The cookies (taste) sweet.	✓ The fox (notice) the person.						
✗ The cookies <i>are tasting</i> sweet.	✗ The fox <i>is noticing</i> the person.						

3. Some non-action verbs describe mental states

agree assume believe consider disagree estimate expect find
guess hesitate hope imagine know mean presume realize
recognize remember understand wonder

✓ Carol (know) you.

✗ Carol is knowing you.

✓ She (understand) you.

✗ She is understanding you.

✓ They (recognize) her voice.

✗ They are recognizing her voice.

✓ He (find) it hard to believe.

✗ He is finding it hard to believe.

4. Some non-action verbs show possession.

belong contain have include involve own possess

✓ I (have) a red sports car.

✗ I am having a red sports car.

✓ The family (own) a dog.

✗ The family is owning a dog.

✓ The book (belong) to him.

✗ The book is belonging to him.

✓ The price (include) tax.

✗ The price is including tax.

5. Note that be is also a non-action verb.

✓ I (be) tired now.

✗ I am being tired now.

✓ He (be) a student.

✗ He is being a student.

INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Why am I working?

What are you eating?

When is he traveling?

What is she doing?

Why is it raining?

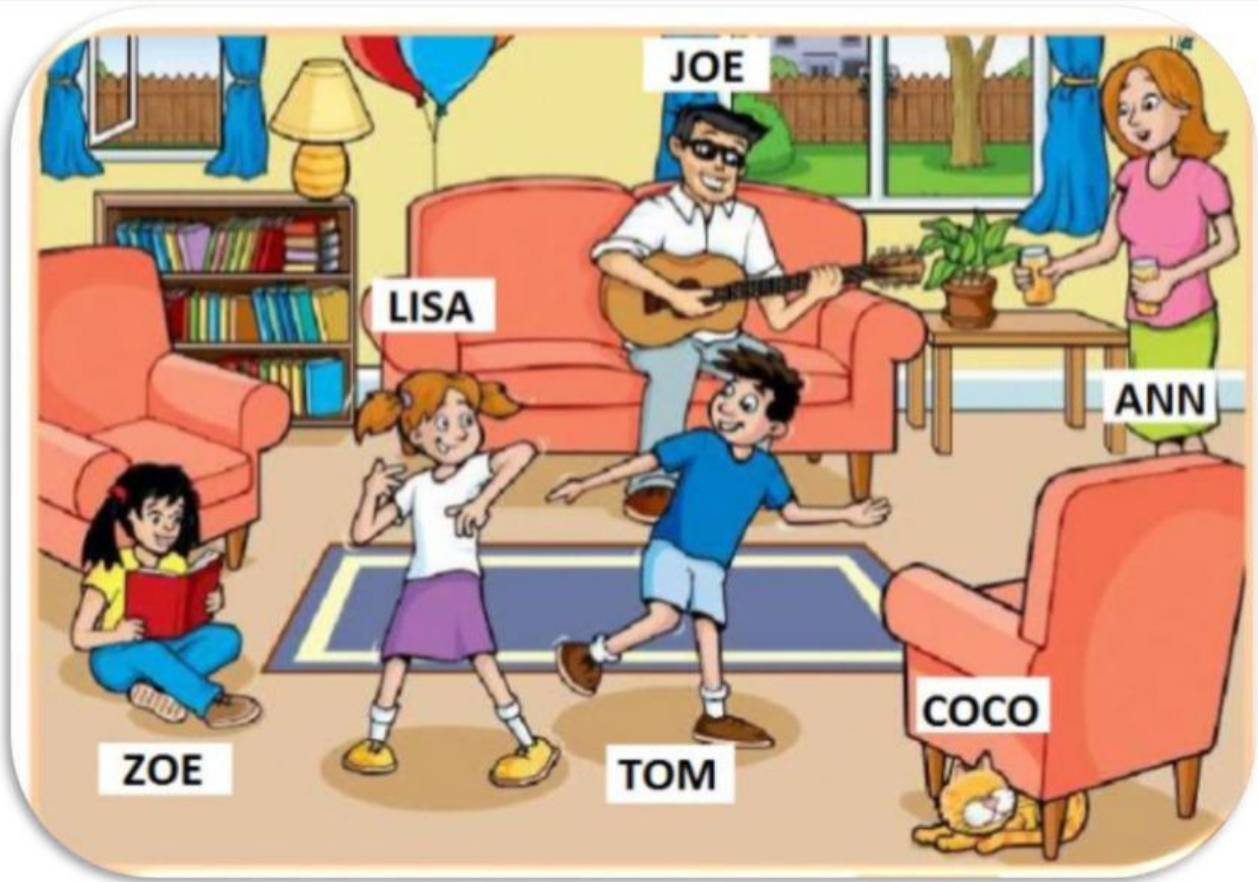
Who are we meeting?

How are they traveling?





WRITTEN TASK #1: Write a report about what each family member is doing. Use Present Progressive Only.



Write your ideas here:



WRITTEN TASK #2: Write a report about what each person is doing in this party. Use Present Progressive Only.



EAT – DRINK – SPEAK – LAUGH – SING – DANCE - LISTEN

Write your ideas here:



Where is everyone?

Two people discuss what their family is doing at the moment.



Instructions: Listen to the next audio and then choose the correct answer.

EXERCISE ①	What is John doing? He is _____. A) studying B) resting C) shopping
EXERCISE ②	What is Emma doing? She is _____. A) watching TV B) shopping C) studying
EXERCISE ③	What are Marcus and Emily doing? They are _____. A. working B) having fun C) studying
EXERCISE ④	What is Alex doing? He is _____. A) cooking B) sleeping C) leaving
EXERCISE ⑤	What is his mom doing? She is _____? A. cooking dinner B) shopping C) dancing
EXERCISE ⑥	What is his dad doing? He is _____. A. working B) sleeping C) golfing

EXERCISE

7

What is his brother probably doing? He is _____.

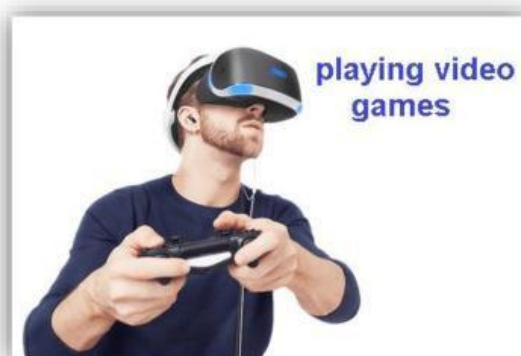
A



B



C



EXERCISE

8

What is his sister doing? She is _____.

A. studying at school

B) playing soccer

C) playing video games



Check how **PRESENT PROGRESSIVE** IS USED IN CONTEXT. Then, practice each dialogue with your classmates. Finally, and MAKE A ROLE PLAY IN WHICH YOU APPLY THE TARGET TOPIC.

CLICK HERE

