

## Grammar in context

Find these extracts in the text on page 27. Explain why each verb in **bold** is in a continuous tense.

- 1 *Ann Makosinski has been creating useful 'clean technology' gadgets for several years.*
- 2 *... as 16-year-old Ryan Beck recognised while he was watching a particularly vicious game of American football.*

## REMEMBER

We use continuous tenses for:

- actions or situations in progress at a particular moment – *What were you doing when I called?*
- temporary actions or situations – *I'm living here for a few months.*
- unfinished actions or situations – *I've been working on a new invention recently.*
- annoying habits – *You're always criticising me.*
- events continuing up to a particular moment or stopping just before it – *I'm tired because I've been studying all evening.*

► See Grammar reference, Unit 3, page 150

1 If a tense in bold is correct, put a tick. If it's incorrect, write the correct tense and explain why.

- 1 What is Sally **doing** with that machine?
- 2 You look out of breath. **Have** you **run**?
- 3 I'm **studying** graphic design for six months now.
- 4 When we **were** children, my brother **was** always **play** tricks on me.
- 5 They've **been** **creating** a new version of the iPhone at the moment.
- 6 When I finally succeeded, I **had been** **trying** to build a time machine for over a decade.

2 Choose the correct word to complete the dialogue.

**Anna:** How are your computer coding lessons going?  
**Beth:** Oh, great! I (1) **have** / **has** been working on something really interesting lately.  
**Anna:** That's good. The last time we spoke you (2) **was** / **had** been getting a bit bored with computing.  
**Beth:** Well, you know I (3) **were** / **was** thinking about giving it up. I'm definitely staying for this new project!  
**Anna:** What is it?  
**Beth:** We (4) **have** / **had** been building a new app for young inventors. It (5) **guides** / **guided** you through turning your ideas into reality, how to approach companies, that kind of thing.  
**Anna:** That sounds really interesting. You know, I (6) **was** / **have** been thinking recently about inventing something myself. It must be great to come up with something new.  
**Beth:** I've met some fantastic young inventors through it. Most of them (7) **have** / **were** been working on their ideas for months, and sometimes years. And now they (8) **is** / **are** getting the rewards for their efforts. Amazing, really.  
**Anna:** Cool! Let me know when it's finished and I'll download it!

3 Choose the best form of the verb to complete each gap.

### Japan's robot hotel

If you (1) **are** developments in the world of robotics recently, you'll know that Japan is a world leader in this field. No surprise, then, that someone in Japan has come up with the world's first hotel run entirely by robots!

You may (2) **see** how guests check in, check out and do all the things that normally require a human behind the desk at reception. First of all, guests who (3) **use** a computer terminal with face recognition technology. A robot receptionist (4) **is** by to help in case of problems and there's even an English-speaking dinosaur robot! Next, a robot porter (5) **brings** your bags to your room, where a personal assistant in the shape of a flower (called Tuly) (6) **adjusts** the lights, tell you the time and give you the weather forecast. The room automatically adjusts the heating by detecting how hot you (7) **are**. And a room only costs £46 a night!



1 A have been following	B follow
C are following	
2 A wondering	B be wondering
C been wondering	
3 A checked in	B were checking in
C are checking in	
4 A was standing	B is standing
C has been standing	
5 A is taking	B takes
C has been taking	
6 A be waiting	B is waiting
C had been waiting	
7 A feeling	B have been feeling
C are feeling	