

## Presente Continuo

**USOS.** Utilizamos el presente continuo para hablar de:

- lo que está pasando en el momento de hablar: *John is doing his homework right now.*
- actividades de largo plazo: *I am reading Huckleberry Finn.*
- situaciones que están cambiando: *The hole in the ozone layer is growing.*
- planes en el futuro: *We're flying to Spain next month.*

**AFIRMATIVA.** En español, se forma este tiempo verbal con *estar* + verbo(-ando/-iendo). En inglés, se forma con **be** + verbo(-ing).

Afirmativa		
I	<b>am</b>	I'm
He		He's
She	<b>is</b>	She's
It		It's
We		We're
You	<b>are</b>	You're
They		They're

Este tiempo verbal es fácil de aprender y utilizar porque su forma y usos son muy similares a los del español.



**NEGATIVO.** En español se añade *no* antes de *estar*; en inglés, se añade **not** después de **be** (o se utiliza la contracción).

Negativo		
I	<b>am not</b>	I'm not
He		He's not
She	<b>is not</b>	She's not
It		It's not
We		We're not
You	<b>are not</b>	You're not
They		They're not

**OJO.** No utilizamos los siguientes verbos (y otros parecidos) en los tiempos continuos: *seem, believe, like, hate, prefer, want, love, know, remember, forget, need, mean, understand*. Son los llamados verbos estáticos. Como los verbos estáticos describen un estado (no una acción), no suelen utilizarse en la forma continua. Por ejemplo, es incorrecto decir: *She was not understanding the formula*. Se dice: *She didn't understand the formula*. Véase el cuadro al final de la explicación.

**INTERROGATIVA.** Formar preguntas sí/no (preguntas cerradas) con **be** es fácil: basta con invertir el orden de la frase. El patrón es: **be + sujeto + verbo(ing)**. Para formar preguntas abiertas, basta con añadir el interrogativo al principio de la pregunta cerrada: **interrogativo + be + sujeto + verbo(ing)**.

Interrogativa		
Am	I	
Is	he she it	working? running?
Are	we you they	writing? studying?

Interrogativa		
Where	am	I
Why	is	he she it
When	are	we you they

Al oido de un angloparlante, suena abrupto—descortés—contestar con solo un *si* o un *no*. Es habitual utilizar lo siguiente:

+ Short Answers			- Short Answers		
Yes,	I	am.	No,	I'm not.	
	he			he is not.	he isn't.
Yes,	she	is.	No,	she is not.	she isn't.
	it			it is not.	it isn't.
	we			we are not.	we aren't.
Yes,	you	are.	No,	you are not.	you aren't.
	they			they are not.	they aren't.

**Reglas ortográficas.** Al añadir la *-ing*, hay que seguir unas reglas ortográficas especiales.

- La regla general es añadir *-ing* al verbo. Por ejemplo, *wait* se convierte en *waiting*.
- Cuando un verbo termina en *e* muda, se suprime la *e* y se añade *-ing*. Por ejemplo, *close* se convierte en *closing*.
- Para los verbos de 1 sílaba que terminan en vocal y consonante (por ejemplo, *run*, *hit*), se dobla la consonante final y se añade *-ing*. Por ejemplo, *hit* se convierte en *hitting*.
- Para los verbos que terminan en *w*, *y*, *o*, *x*, sólo se añade *-ing*. Por ejemplo, *fix* se convierte en *fixing*.
- Para los verbos terminados en *-ie*, suprime la *-ie* y añada *-ying*. Por ejemplo, *die* se convierte en *dying*.
- En el caso de los verbos que terminan en consonante + vocal + L, se aplica una de las dos reglas según se utilice el inglés americano o el británico. En inglés americano, *travel* se convierte en *traveling*, mientras que en inglés británico se convierte en *travelling*.

## 1-6 NON-ACTION VERBS

(a) I **know** Ms. Chen.  
*INCORRECT: I am knowing Ms. Chen.*

(b) I'm hungry. I **want** a sandwich.  
*INCORRECT: I am wanting a sandwich.*

(c) This book **belongs** to Mikhail.  
*INCORRECT: This book is belonging to Mikhail.*

Some verbs are not used in progressive tenses. These verbs are called “non-action verbs.” They express a situation that exists, not an action in progress.

### NON-ACTION VERBS\*

hear	believe	be	own	need	like	forget
see	think <sup>†</sup>	exist	have <sup>†</sup>	want	love	remember
sound	understand		possess	prefer	hate	
	know		belong			

### <sup>†</sup>COMPARE

(d) I **think** that grammar is easy.

(e) I **am thinking** about grammar right now.

(f) Tom **has** a cat.

(g) I'm **having** a good time.

*Think* and *have* can be used in the progressive. In (d): When *think* means “believe,” it is nonprogressive. In (e): When *think* expresses thoughts that are going through a person's mind, it can be progressive. In (f): When *have* means “own” or expresses possession, it is not used in the progressive. In (g): In expressions where *have* does not mean “own” (e.g., *have a good time*, *have a bad time*, *have trouble*, *have a problem*, *have company*, *have an operation*), *have* can be used in the progressive.

\*Non-action verbs are also called “stative verbs” or “nonprogressive verbs.”

## Vamos a practicar...

**Escribe la forma *-ing* de los siguientes verbos.**

1) enjoy	6) read	11) buy
2) hit	7) organize	12) shut
3) hope	8) use	13) die
4) shoot	9) stop	14) rise
5) lie	10) tidy	15) play

Completa las oraciones con la forma correcta del verbo en paréntesis—presente simple o presente continuo. (Este ejercicio pone de relieve las diferencias entre estos dos tiempos verbales: el presente simple se utiliza para los hábitos y el presente continuo para las acciones en curso.)

1. Shhh. The baby (*sleep*) is sleeping. The baby (*sleep*)  
sleeps for ten hours every night.

2. Right now I'm in class. I (*sit*) \_\_\_\_\_ at my desk. I usually  
(*sit*) \_\_\_\_\_ at the same desk in class every day.

3. Ali (*speak*) \_\_\_\_\_ Arabic. Arabic is his native language, but  
right now he (*speak*) \_\_\_\_\_ English.

4. A: (*it, rain*) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot in southern California?  
B: No. The weather (*be*) \_\_\_\_\_ usually warm and sunny.

5. A: Look out the window. (*it, rain*) \_\_\_\_\_ ? Should I take  
my umbrella?  
B: It (*start*) \_\_\_\_\_ to sprinkle.

6. A: Look. It's Youssef.  
B: Where?  
A: Over there. He (*walk*) \_\_\_\_\_ out of the bakery.

7. A: Oscar usually (*walk*) \_\_\_\_\_ to work. (*walk, you*)  
\_\_\_\_\_ to work every day, too?

B: Yes.

A: (*Oscar, walk*) \_\_\_\_\_ with you?

B: Sometimes.

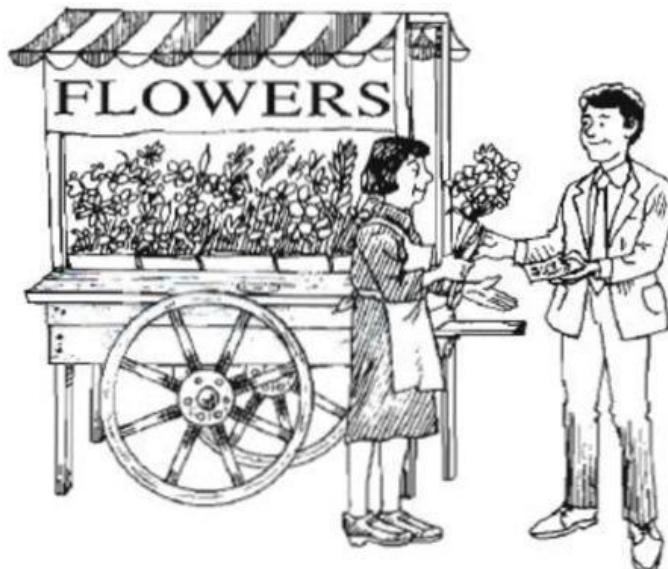
8. A: Flowers! Flowers for sale!

Yes sir! Can I help you?

B: I'll take those—the yellow ones.

A: Here you are, mister. Are they  
for a special occasion?

B: I (*buy*) \_\_\_\_\_  
them for my wife. I (*buy*)  
\_\_\_\_\_



her flowers on the first day of every month.

**Completa las oraciones con la forma correcta del verbo en paréntesis—presente simple o presente continuo. (Este ejercicio te ayudará a reconocer los verbos estáticos.)**

1. Right now I (*look*) am looking at the board. I (*see*)  
\_\_\_\_\_ some words on the board.

2. A: (*you, need*) \_\_\_\_\_ some help, Mrs. Brown?  
(*you, want*) \_\_\_\_\_ me to carry that box for you?

B: Yes, thank you. That's very kind of you.

3. A: Who is that man? I (*think*) \_\_\_\_\_ that I (*know*)  
\_\_\_\_\_ him, but I (*forget*) \_\_\_\_\_ his name.

B: That's Mr. Martinez.

A: That's right! I (*remember*) \_\_\_\_\_ him now.

4. A: (you, believe) \_\_\_\_\_ in flying saucers?  
B: What (you, talk) \_\_\_\_\_ about?  
A: You know, spaceships from outer space with alien creatures aboard.  
B: In my opinion, flying saucers (exist) \_\_\_\_\_ only in people's imaginations.

5. Right now the children (be) \_\_\_\_\_ at the beach. They (have) \_\_\_\_\_ a good time. They (have) \_\_\_\_\_ a beach ball, and they (play) \_\_\_\_\_ catch with it. They (like) \_\_\_\_\_ to play catch. Their parents (sunbathe) \_\_\_\_\_. They (try) \_\_\_\_\_ to get a tan. They (listen) \_\_\_\_\_ to music on a radio. They also (hear) \_\_\_\_\_ the sound of seagulls and the sound of the waves.

6. A: What (you, think) \_\_\_\_\_ about right now?  
B: I (think) \_\_\_\_\_ about seagulls and waves.  
A: (you, like) \_\_\_\_\_ seagulls?  
B: Yes. I (think) \_\_\_\_\_ seagulls are interesting birds.

7. A: Which color (you, prefer) \_\_\_\_\_, red or blue?  
B: I (like) \_\_\_\_\_ blue better than red. Why?  
A: I (read) \_\_\_\_\_ a magazine article right now. According to the article, people who (prefer) \_\_\_\_\_ blue to red (be) \_\_\_\_\_ calm and (value) \_\_\_\_\_ honesty and loyalty in their friends. A preference for red (mean) \_\_\_\_\_ that a person (be) \_\_\_\_\_ aggressive and (love) \_\_\_\_\_ excitement.  
B: Oh? That (sound) \_\_\_\_\_ like a bunch of nonsense to me.

Encuentra y corrige los errores del texto. Cada línea del texto está numerada. Si hay un error en esa línea, escribe la corrección en el espacio correspondiente a continuación. Una línea no tiene errores; otras tienen múltiples errores.

1 My friend Omar ~~is-owning~~<sup>owns</sup> his own car now. It's brand new.\* Today he driving  
2 to a small town north of the city to visit his aunt. He love to listen to music, so the CD  
3 player is play one of his favorite CDs—loudly. Omar is very happy: he is drive his own  
4 car and listen to loud music. He's look forward to his visit with his aunt.

5 Omar is visiting his aunt once a week. She's elderly and live alone. She is  
6 thinking Omar a wonderful nephew. She love his visits. He try to be helpful and  
7 considerate in every way. His aunt don't hearing well, so Omar is speaks loudly and  
8 clearly when he's with her.

9 When he's there, he fix things for her around her apartment and help her with  
10 her shopping. He isn't staying with her overnight. He usually is staying for a few hours  
11 and then is heading back to the city. He kiss his aunt good-bye and give her a hug  
12 before he is leaving. Omar is a very good nephew.

\*Brand new means "completely new", "a estrenar".

1	owns			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				