

3B present continuous (future arrangements)

- I'm **seeing** an old friend tonight.
She's arriving at lunchtime.
- She **isn't leaving** until Friday.
They **aren't coming** to the party tomorrow.
- What **are you doing** this evening?
Is he **meeting** us at the restaurant?

3.12

- We often use the present continuous with a future meaning, especially for future arrangements, i.e. for plans we have made at a fixed time or place in the future. Don't use the present simple for this.
NOT ~~I see an old friend tonight.~~



be going to or present continuous?

We can often use either with no difference in meaning, e.g. **I'm going to see** Anna on Tuesday. OR **I'm seeing** Anna on Tuesday.

It's very common to use the present continuous with the expressions *tonight*, *tomorrow*, *this weekend*, etc. and with verbs describing travel arrangements, e.g. *go*, *come*, *leave*, *arrive*.

I'm leaving on Monday is more common than **I'm going to leave** on Monday.

GRAMMAR

¿USO GOING TO O PRESENTE CONTINUO?

En general se pueden usar una estructura o la otra sin diferencia en el significado p.ej. *I'm going to see Anna on Tuesday* y *I'm seeing Anna on Tuesday* significan lo mismo.

Es muy común usar el Presente Continuo con expresiones como *tonight*, *tomorrow*, *this weekend*, etc. y con verbos que describen arreglos de viaje p.ej. *go*, *come*, *leave*, *arrive*.

Por lo mismo es más común decir *I'm leaving on Monday* que *I'm going to leave on Monday*.

a Read the sentences. Write **N** for now, **F** for future.

F I'm meeting Joe at two o'clock.

1 I'm living in a flat with two Swedish boys.

2 We're coming back on Monday.

3 She's moving to Canada next month.

4 I'm waiting for the postman.

5 I'm reading a really good book about science.

6 We're meeting Sally and James for lunch on Sunday.

7 Karl is arriving at six o'clock.

8 I'm studying for my maths exam.

9 You aren't listening to what I'm saying.

10 Are they leaving in the morning?

b Complete the conversation between two flatmates with verbs in the present continuous.

A What are you doing? (do)

B I ¹ _____ my suitcase. (pack)

A Why?

B Because I ² _____ to Vienna at eight o'clock tonight. (fly)

A Oh, I didn't know. Why ³ _____ to Vienna? (go)

B I ⁴ _____ the boss of VTech Solutions tomorrow. (meet)

A Why ⁵ _____ him? (see)

B He ⁶ _____ on a project with me at the moment and we need to discuss it. (work)

A Oh, well have a good trip!