

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 **N** I'm living in a flat with two Swedish boys.
 - 2 **N** We're coming back on Monday.
 - 3 **N** She's moving to Canada next month.
 - 4 **N** I'm waiting for the postman.
 - 5 **N** I'm reading a really good book about science.
 - 6 **N** We're meeting Sally and James for lunch on Sunday.
 - 7 **N** Karl is arriving at six o'clock.
 - 8 **N** I'm studying for my maths exam.
 - 9 **N** You aren't listening to what I'm saying.
 - 10 **N** 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!