Describing Scenes: There's someone/something + -ing

WARM-UP | What's happening?

Look at the list of places below. For each one, write TWO things you might see people doing there. Use your own ideas.

Place	What can you see people doing?
a train station	
a park on a sunny day	
a shopping centre	
a busy road	
a café	

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Describing what you can see or hear

We use these structures in English to describe a scene – what is happening around you right now.

KEY STRUCTURES

There is / There are + noun + -ing verb

*There's **a dog barking** outside.*
*There are **some children playing** in the garden.*

I can see / hear / feel / smell + noun + -ing verb

*I can see **a man reading** a newspaper.*
*I can hear **someone singing** upstairs.*

⚠ We use -ing, NOT the infinitive, after these structures.

✗ *There's a car to stop by the gate.* ✓ *There's a car stopping by the gate.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Forming the -ing verb

Complete the table with the correct -ing form.

Base form	-ing form
run	
sit	
write	
come	
play	
make	
shout	
lie (on the ground)	

EXERCISES

Exercise 1 | Join the sentences

Combine each pair of sentences into one, using the structure in brackets. Change the verb to -ing.

Example: *There's a bus. It's waiting outside.* → *There's a bus waiting outside.*

1. There's a dog. It's sleeping on the sofa. [There's a …]
2. I can see two boys. They're climbing a tree. [I can see …]
3. There are three pigeons. They're sitting on the roof. [There are …]
4. I can hear someone. They're knocking on the door. [I can hear …]
5. I can smell something. It's burning in the kitchen. [I can smell …]

Exercise 2 | Spot the mistake

Each sentence has ONE error. Find it and write the correct sentence on the line below.

1. There's a woman to sit on a bench and read a book.
2. I can see a group of children to play football in the park.
3. There are two men carry some heavy boxes.
4. I can hear someone to shout in the street.
5. I can feel the wind blow on my face.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise 3 | Describe the scene

Imagine you are sitting in a park. Write six sentences describing what you can see, hear, feel or smell. Use a different verb for each sentence.

Use these sentence starters:

- **There's a / an …**
- **There are some …**
- **I can see …**
- **I can hear …**
- **I can feel …**
- **I can smell …**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Exercise 4 | Word order puzzle

Put the words in the correct order to make a sentence.

1. old / there's / man / the / an / at / standing / corner
2. barking / outside / can / dog / hear / I / a
3. café / are / people / the / laughing / there / in / some
4. cooking / something / can / smell / I / delicious

LIVEWORKSHEETS