CURRENT CHANGES AND DEVELOPING SITUATIONS

A. QUICK GRAMMAR REMINDER

1. Present Continuous for changes and developing situations.

Ta dùng Present Continuous khi nói về một sự thay đổi, xu hướng, hoặc quá trình phát triển đang diễn ra trong giai đoạn hiện tại.

Nó không nhất thiết xảy ra ngay đúng lúc nói, nhưng đang thay đổi quanh thời điểm hiện tại.

Examples:

• The cost of living is rising. → Chi phí sinh hoạt đang tăng lên.

• More and more students are using AI tools for homework. → Ngày càng nhiều học sinh đang dùng công cụ AI để làm bài tập.

• His English is improving quickly. → Tiếng Anh của cậu ấy đang tiến bộ nhanh.

• The city is becoming more crowded. → Thành phố đang trở nên đông đúc hơn.

• Young people are spending more time online. → Người trẻ đang dành nhiều thời gian hơn trên mạng.

2. Common verbs for changes and developments

Một số động từ thường dùng với Present Continuous để nói về thay đổi / xu hướng:

increase = tăng lên	rise = tăng lên
grow = phát triển / tăng lên	fall = giảm xuống
decrease = giảm xuống	drop = giảm mạnh / giảm xuống
improve = cải thiện	get better = tốt lên
get worse = tệ đi	become = trở nên
change = thay đổi	develop = phát triển
spread = lan rộng	expand = mở rộng
disappear = biến mất dần	turn into = biến thành

3. Useful patterns

- More and more + plural noun + are + V-ing (ngày càng nhiều ...)

Example: More and more students are choosing online courses. → Ngày càng nhiều học sinh đang chọn các khóa học online.

- The number of + plural noun + is increasing / rising / falling.

Example: The number of students taking IELTS is increasing. → Số lượng học sinh thi IELTS đang tăng lên.

- Something is becoming + adjective.

Example: Education is becoming more technology-based. → Giáo dục đang trở nên phụ thuộc nhiều hơn vào công nghệ.

- Something is getting + comparative adjective.

Example: The exams are getting more competitive. → Các kỳ thi đang trở nên cạnh tranh hơn.

B. NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE

Pair 1

Students use AI tools for homework. → Đây là một nhận xét chung hoặc một thói quen.

More and more students are using AI tools for homework. → Đây là một xu hướng đang tăng lên hiện nay.

Pair 2

The school offers online lessons. → Đây là dịch vụ thường xuyên của trường.

The school is offering more online lessons these days. → Trường đang tăng số lượng lớp online trong giai đoạn hiện tại.

Pair 3

His English improves when he practises regularly. → Đây là một sự thật chung.

His English is improving because he is practising every day. → Tiếng Anh của cậu ấy đang tiến bộ trong giai đoạn hiện tại.

Pair 4

Many teenagers spend time on social media. → Đây là một nhận xét chung.

Teenagers are spending more and more time on social media. → Đây là một xu hướng đang phát triển.

Pair 5

The city has a lot of traffic. → Đây là tình trạng chung.

The traffic in the city is getting worse. → Tình hình giao thông đang trở nên tệ hơn.

EXERCISE 1. Read the sentences. Tick the sentences that describe a current change or developing situation.

1. More and more students are taking international English exams.
2. My brother takes the bus to school every day.
3. The price of private education is rising in many cities.
4. Our school has three computer rooms.
5. Fewer teenagers are reading printed newspapers these days.
6. My father works for a technology company.
7. The number of children learning English at an early age is increasing.
8. I usually revise vocabulary before going to bed.
9. The weather is getting hotter every year.
10. This app helps students practise pronunciation.
11. Online learning is becoming more common.
12. She studies biology at university.
13. Young people are becoming more interested in global issues.
14. This centre prepares students for entrance exams.
15. The quality of his writing is improving.

EXERCISE 2. CHOOSE THE CORRECT FORM

1. More and more parents **send / are sending** their children to extra English classes.
2. The number of students applying to international schools **is increasing/ increases** these days.
3. My brother **improves / is improving** his pronunciation because he practises speaking every day.
4. This school **offers / is offering** English courses for secondary students throughout the year.
5. This year, the school **offers / is offering** more speaking classes because students need better communication skills.

6. Teenagers **spend / are spending** more time on short videos than before.

7. The city **becomes / is becoming** more crowded as more people move here for work.

8. Our teacher **gives / is giving** us more writing practice this term because the final exam includes a long essay.

9. The cost of living **rises / is rising**, so many families have to manage their money more carefully.

10. I usually **study / am studying** English in the evening, but these days I **focus / am focusing** more on speaking.

11. The number of students who **choose / are choosing** online courses **grows / is growing** quickly.

12. My English **gets / is getting** better, but I still make mistakes with grammar.

13. Children **rely / are relying** more on technology for both study and entertainment.

14. This website **provides / is providing** free grammar exercises for B2 learners.

15. The gap between strong and weak students **becomes / is becoming** more obvious as the exam gets closer.

EXERCISE 3. Put the verbs in brackets into the Present Simple or Present Continuous.

1. More and more students _____ online dictionaries instead of printed ones. (use)

2. The number of students taking IELTS _____ every year. (increase)

3. His writing _____ because he _____ more complex sentence structures. (improve / use)

4. Many schools _____ technology into their lessons these days. (introduce)

5. This centre usually _____ exam preparation courses, but this year it _____ more communication-based classes. (offer / develop)

6. Teenagers _____ less time reading long texts because short videos _____ more popular. (spend / become)

7. The education system _____ slowly as schools _____ more digital tools. (change / use)

8. My pronunciation _____ better because I _____ speaking with native speakers online. (get / practise)

9. The demand for bilingual education _____ in big cities. (grow)

10. Students _____ more independent because they _____ access to many online resources. (become / have)

11. Many traditional jobs _____ as artificial intelligence _____ more advanced. (disappear / become)

12. The school _____ a new feedback system this term, so students _____ more detailed comments on their writing. (test / receive)

EXERCISE 4. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH A SUITABLE VERB

become increase rise fall improve
grow get change spread develop

1. The number of students interested in debate classes _____.
2. His confidence _____ now that he speaks English every day.
3. The price of textbooks _____, so many students prefer digital materials.
4. Online learning _____ more common in many schools.
5. The weather _____ hotter each year.
6. The way students learn English _____ quickly.
7. The demand for high-quality English courses _____ in big cities.
8. His listening skills _____ because he watches English videos regularly.
9. Traditional classrooms _____ into more flexible learning spaces.
10. Concerns about screen time _____ among parents.

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EXERCISE 5. REWRITE THE SENTENCES TO SHOW CHANGE

1. More students choose online courses nowadays.
→ More and more students _____.
2. The cost of private education rises every year.
→ The cost of private education _____.
3. Teenagers spend more time on social media than before.
→ Teenagers _____.
4. His English gets better because he practises every day.
→ His English _____.
5. Schools use more digital tools now.
→ Schools _____.

6. Fewer people read printed newspapers these days.

→ Fewer people _____.

7. The city has more traffic than before.

→ The traffic in the city _____.

8. Parents pay more attention to their children's mental health.

→ Parents _____.

9. Students depend more on technology for homework.

→ Students _____.

10. The exam becomes more competitive each year.

→ The exam _____.

EXERCISE 6. Explain the difference in meaning between each pair of sentences.

You may answer in Vietnamese or English.

1.

a. Students use AI tools for homework.

b. More and more students are using AI tools for homework.

2.

a. The school offers online lessons.

b. The school is offering more online lessons this term.

3.

a. His pronunciation improves when he practises regularly.

b. His pronunciation is improving because he is practising every day.

4.

a. Teenagers spend a lot of time online.

b. Teenagers are spending more and more time online.

5.

a. The city is crowded.

b. The city is becoming more crowded.

6.

a. The number of students taking IELTS is high.

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b. The number of students taking IELTS is increasing.

7.

a. This centre prepares students for entrance exams.

b. This centre is developing more courses for secondary students.

8.

a. Many students find writing difficult.

b. Many students are finding writing more difficult as the tasks become more academic.

EXERCISE 7. Correct the mistakes. Write C if the sentence is already correct.

1. More and more students choose online learning platforms these days.
2. The cost of living rises at the moment.
3. His English is improving quickly because he practises every day.
4. The number of teenagers using short videos increases rapidly these days.
5. This school offers extra classes for students preparing for entrance exams.
6. Education becomes more technology-based.
7. Fewer people are reading printed newspapers nowadays.
8. The city gets more crowded every year.
9. My pronunciation gets better this month because I am practising more.
10. The demand for English teachers is growing in many areas.
11. Many students are depending more on AI tools for homework.
12. The school is providing online materials for all students every year.
13. The quality of her essays is improving.
14. More parents are paying attention to their children's study habits.
15. The exam is becoming more difficult, so students need more serious preparation.

EXERCISE 8. COMPLETE THE MINI-DIALOGUES

Dialogue 1

A: Have you noticed that more students _____ English speaking clubs these days? (join)

B: Yes, I think speaking skills _____ more important because many exams now include interviews. (become)

A: Exactly. Even shy students _____ to practise more. (try)

Dialogue 2

A: Why _____ the school _____ more online materials this term? (provide)

B: Because students _____ more flexible ways to revise at home. (need)

A: That makes sense. The way students learn _____ very quickly. (change)

Dialogue 3

A: Your writing is much better than before.

B: Really? I think it _____ because I _____ more essays every week. (improve / write)

A: Yes, and your arguments _____ clearer too. (become)

Dialogue 4

A: Do students still use printed dictionaries?

B: Not really. More and more students _____ online dictionaries now. (use)

A: I suppose printed dictionaries _____ less popular. (become)

B: Yes, but some teachers still _____ them useful for serious study. (consider)

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EXERCISE 9. TEXT GAP-FILL

Education is changing quickly. In the past, many students mainly _____ (depend) on textbooks and classroom lessons. Today, however, more and more students _____ (use) online platforms, video lessons and AI tools to support their learning.

This change _____ (create) both opportunities and problems. On the one hand, students _____ (have) access to more information than ever before. They can watch explanations, practise pronunciation and receive feedback almost instantly. On the other hand, many teachers _____ (worry) that students _____ (become) too dependent on technology.

At our school, the teachers usually _____ (give) traditional homework, but this term they _____ (try) a new system. Students _____ (complete) some assignments online, and teachers _____ (use) digital tools to track their progress. The number of students who submit

homework on time _____ (increase), but some students still _____ (find) it difficult to manage their time.

Personally, I think my English _____ (improve) because I _____ (listen) to more English every day. However, I also _____ (realise) that technology alone is not enough. Students still _____ (need) discipline, clear goals and regular practice.

EXERCISE 10. The paragraph below contains 10 mistakes with the Present Simple and Present Continuous.

Find and correct them.

The way students learn English changes very quickly these days. More and more students use online tools, and the number of learners who take international exams increases. At my school, teachers usually are giving grammar exercises, but this term they give us more speaking tasks because communication skills become more important. My English improves this month because I practise every day and watch English videos after school. However, many students still are depending too much on translation apps, and some teachers worry that students lose the ability to think carefully in English.

EXERCISE 11. GUIDED WRITING

Write a paragraph of 100-120 words about changes in education, technology, or student life.

You must include:

1. One sentence with More and more...
2. One sentence with The number of...
3. One sentence with is becoming / are becoming...
4. One sentence with is getting / are getting...
5. At least five Present Continuous forms showing change or development.
6. At least two Present Simple forms for general facts or regular situations.

Suggested opening:

Student life is changing quickly, especially because technology is becoming more important in education.

EXERCISE 12. SPEAKING PRACTICE

Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.

1. Are students in your school using technology more than before?
2. Is English becoming more important for students in Vietnam?
3. Are exams becoming more competitive?
4. Is the way students revise for tests changing?
5. Are teenagers spending more time online?
6. Are parents paying more attention to English learning?
7. Is your own English improving at the moment? Why or why not?
8. Are students becoming more independent, or more dependent on technology?

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