

PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

aFFIRMATIVE SENTENCE

Forming the Present Continuous Tense

To form the verb in the Present Continuous Tense you need the correct form of **'to be' (am, is, are)** and the **-ing (Gerund) form of the verb**.

I	am / 'm	reading a book.
You		watching TV.
We	are / 're	going to the cinema now.
They		playing basketball.
He		starting his plan.
She	is / 's	standing next to me.
It		raining now.

Spelling rules

- Mostly the verb gets an -ing in the Present Continuous Tense. E.g.: starting, playing, looking, skiing ...
- If the verb is monosyllabic, it ends with a vowel + consonant, and the vowel is short (pronunciation) then the consonant at the end of the verb doubles. E.g.: run → running
- If the verb ends with -l, it doubles. E.g.: travel → travelling
- If the verb is multisyllabic, and 2nd point holds true of the last syllable then the consonant at the end of the verb doubles. E.g.: permit, admit
- If the verb ends with a mute -e, you have to leave it out. E.g.: make → making

1 Form the Gerund form of the following verbs and decide which spelling rule you used. Look at the example.

e.g.: go

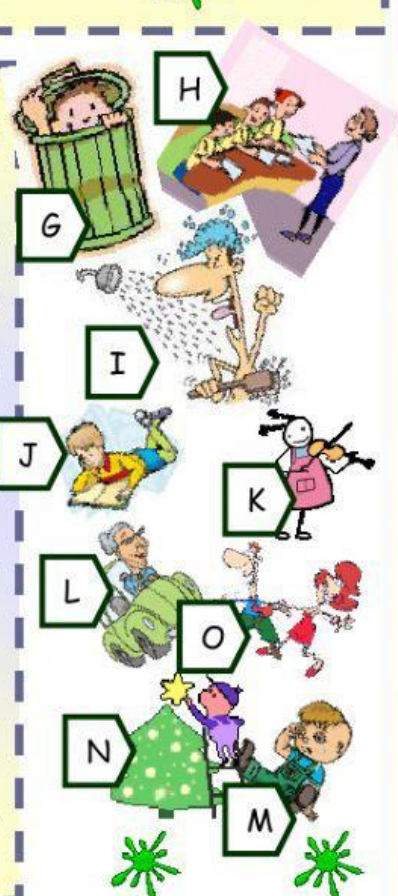
- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| a) bake | b) watch |
| c) check | d) use |
| e) smile | f) travel |
| g) answer | h) live |
| i) plan | j) get |
| k) wash | l) leave |
| m) put | n) walk |
| o) come | p) ask |
| q) stop | r) sit |

normal	double consonant	mute -e
going		

2 Fill in the sentences with the correct form of the verb in the Present Continuous Tense. Then match the sentences with the pictures.

e.g.: You ... home. (go) ⇒ are going

- Jason _____ an interesting book now. (read)
- Mrs Baker _____ the students. (teach)
- The children _____ a test today. (write)
- The child _____ a snowman at the moment (build)
- Mr Thompson _____ a shower. (have)
- Tim _____ in the leaves. (jump)
- They _____ the man into the hospital. (take)
- I _____ a piece of paper. (cut)
- Sarah _____ the violin. (play)
- Granny _____ a car now. (drive)
- Brian _____ the table. (set)
- The boy _____ in the bin. (hide)
- Carl _____ (cry)
- Frank _____ a star on the top of the tree. (put)
- My parents _____ (dance)





3 Fill in the sentences with the correct form of the verb in the Present Continuous Tense. Look at the example.

e.g.: You ... home. (go) ⇒ are going

What are the Lees doing now?

- 1) Kim _____ her teeth now. (clean)
- 2) Mr Lee _____ a cup of coffee. (drink)
- 3) Mrs Lee _____ sandwiches. (make)
- 4) The six goldfish _____ in the aquarium. (swim)
- 5) Tom and Davy _____ their schoolbags. (pack)
- 6) The dog _____ its bone. (chew)
- 7) Grandma _____ the clothes. (iron)
- 8) Mandy _____ her homework. (do)
- 9) Grandpa _____ Mandy. (help)
- 10) The cats _____ on the sofa and _____.(lie, sleep)



5 Form sentences in the Present Continuous Tense with the given words. Look at the example.

e.g.: you / go / home. ⇒ You are going home.

- 1) I / lock / the door / now.

- 2) Mary / open / the window.

- 3) Fred and Ben / eat / a sandwich.

- 4) you / laugh / at me.

- 5) Mr Smith / wear / a blue shirt.

- 6) a book / Sally / hold / at the moment.

- 7) pay / \$20 / Ben / for the lunch.

- 8) you / a zoo / draw / now.

- 9) fight / the boys / in the schoolyard.

- 10) little steps/ Helen / step.



4 Fill in the sentences with the correct form of the verb in the Present Continuous Tense. Look at the example.

e.g.: You ... home. (go) ⇒ are going

What are the people in New Promise doing?

- 1) Walter _____ the walls of his house. (paint)
- 2) Mr Topsy _____ to find his keys. (try)
- 3) The twins _____ a heavy box. (carry)
- 4) Mavis _____ a bike. (ride)
- 5) I _____ for the postman. (wait)
- 6) The postman _____ the letters. (bring)
- 7) You _____ to Mozart. (listen)
- 8) It _____.(rain)
- 9) The men _____ on the roof. (work)
- 10) Mum _____ the lunch. (cook)



6 Write the correct forms (Present Continuous) of the verbs on the lines from this list.

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| ▪ to arrest | ▪ to make |
| ▪ to ask | ▪ to put |
| ▪ to blow | ▪ to stay |
| ▪ to buy | ▪ to study |
| ▪ to fix | ▪ to watch |

- 1) Tom _____ Mike's bike.
- 2) The family _____ TV in the living room.
- 3) I _____ with my friend this week.
- 4) You _____ some food for dinner.
- 5) Mrs Hudson _____ the beds in the hotel.
- 6) The police _____ the thief.
- 7) Abby _____ her nose.
- 8) Mrs Anderson _____ on her evening dress.
- 9) Sally _____ her teacher about the exam.
- 10) The students _____ Maths now.

Extra spelling rule

There are verbs ending with -ie, like 'lie'. In the Gerund form the 'ie' changes into 'y'.

e.g.: lie ⇒ lying

Other verbs: die, outlie, tie, untie, ...etc.



7 Multiple choice. There are three different verbs given for each sentence. You have to choose the correct one, and then you have to write the correct form of this verb on the line. Look at the example.

e.g.: I _____ to Spain. (begin, fly, arrive) ⇒ **am flying**

1) You _____ slices from this cake.

to try to do to cut

2) Harry _____ to work now.

to drive to take to jump

3) Mrs Fine _____ the tables.

to take to set to do

4) The leaves _____ down because it's autumn.

to fly to break to fall

5) Father _____ in the kitchen.

to start to cook to lie

6) I _____ now, it's 7 am.

to sleep to build to get up

7) We _____ on holiday.

to go to spend to do

8) Greg _____ fast.

to hit to run to smile

9) The children _____ chocolate.

to eat to make to break

10) The clothes _____ in the garden.

to wash to fall to dry

11) I _____ to travel abroad.

to dance to plan to use

12) The rabbit _____ on the field.

to hop to walk to have

13) The Lees _____ their present to Molly.

to to use to give

14) Sam _____ the parts of the puzzle in.

to do to fix to fit



8 Write sentences to the pictures with the given verbs. You can name the characters in the pictures.

- to drive
- to hit
- to hug
- to kiss
- to plant a tree
- to ring
- to push the trolley
- to sit on a tree
- to sleep
- to tell a bedtime story
- to walk in the leaves
- to water the plant

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

Created by Susan V Toth

Solution

Task 1

normal	double consonant	mute -e
checking	stopping	baking
answering	sitting	smiling
watching	travelling	leaving
walking	planning	living
washing	getting	using
asking	putting	coming

Task 2

- 1) Jason is reading an interesting book now.J
- 2) Mrs Baker is teaching the students.H
- 3) The children are writing a test today.A
- 4) The child is building a snowman at the moment.E
- 5) Mr Thompson is having a shower.I
- 6) Tim is jumping in the leaves.C
- 7) They are taking the man into the hospital.F
- 8) I am cutting a piece of paper.B
- 9) Sarah is playing the violin.K
- 10) Granny is driving a car now.L
- 11) Brian is setting the table.D
- 12) The boy is hiding in the bin.G
- 13) Carl is crying.M
- 14) Frank is putting a star on the top of the tree.N
- 15) My parents are dancing.O

Task 3

- 1) Kim is cleaning her teeth now. (clean)
- 2) Mr Lee is drinking a cup of coffee. (drink)
- 3) Mrs Lee is making sandwiches. (make)
- 4) The six goldfish are swimming in the aquarium. (swim)
- 5) Tom and Davy are packing their schoolbags. (pack)
- 6) The dog is chewing its bone. (chew)
- 7) Grandma is ironing the clothes. (iron)
- 8) Mandy is doing her homework. (do)
- 9) Grandpa is helping Mandy. (help)
- 10) The cats are lying on the sofa and sleeping. (lie, sleep)

Task 4

- 1) Walter is painting the walls of his house. (paint)
- 2) Mr Topsy is trying to find his keys. (try)
- 3) The twins are carrying a heavy box. (carry)
- 4) Mavis is riding a bike. (ride)
- 5) I am waiting for the postman. (wait)
- 6) The postman is bringing the letters. (bring)
- 7) You are listening to Mozart. (listen)
- 8) It is raining. (rain)
- 9) The men are working on the roof. (work)
- 10) Mum is cooking the lunch. (cook)

Task 5

- 12) I am locking the door now.
- 13) Mary is opening the window.
- 14) Fred and Ben are eating a sandwich.
- 15) You are laughing at me.
- 16) Mr Smith is wearing a blue shirt.
- 17) Sally is holding a book at the moment.
- 18) Ben is paying \$20 for the lunch.
- 19) You are drawing a zoo now.
- 20) The boys are fighting in the schoolyard.
- 21) Helen is stepping little steps.

Task 6

- 1) Tom is fixing Mike's bike.
- 2) The family is watching TV in the living room.
- 3) I am staying with my friend this week.
- 4) You are buying some food for dinner.
- 5) Mrs Hudson is making the beds in the hotel.
- 6) The police are arresting the thief.
- 7) Abby is blowing her nose.
- 8) Mrs Anderson is putting on her evening dress.
- 9) Sally is asking her teacher about the exam.
- 10) The students are studying Maths now.

Task 7

- 1) You are cutting slices from this cake.
- 2) The clothes are drying in the garden.
- 3) Harry is driving to work now.
- 4) Mrs Fine is setting the tables.
- 5) The leaves are falling down because it's autumn.
- 6) Father is cooking in the kitchen.
- 7) I am getting up now, it's 7 am.
- 8) We are going on holiday.
- 9) Greg is running fast.
- 10) The children are eating chocolate.
- 11) I am planning to travel abroad.
- 12) The rabbit is hopping on the field.
- 13) The Lees are giving their present to Molly.
- 14) Sam is fitting the parts of the puzzle in.

Task 8

- 1) He is pushing the trolley.
- 2) She is walking in the leaves.
- 3) He is sleeping.
- 4) He is sitting on a tree.
- 5) She is hugging her granny. / They are hugging each other.
- 6) The telephone is ringing.
- 7) The bus driver is driving the bus.
- 8) Bob is hitting Tom.
- 9) He is planting a tree.
- 10) Peter is kissing Mary.
- 11) She is watering the plant.
- 12) Dad is telling a bedtime story to his son.