Decide on the correct tense (present continuous, past continuous or present perfect continuous) and complete the sentences 1–6 using the verbs in the brackets. Decide which rule matches the meaning of each sentence.

1 'What _____ (*do*)?' You look exhausted!'
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

2 'Can you help me with my homework?' 'No, I _____ TV.' (*watch*)
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

3 The number of people taking up extreme sports _____ (*increase*) since the early 1990s.
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

4 Last month I _____ (have) acting lessons but I had to stop when I lost my voice.
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

5 They _____ (*walk*) in the countryside when suddenly it started to rain.
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

6 I don't like the book that I _____ (read) at the moment.
Tense: _____ *Rule number:* _____

Grammar tip: Continuous verbs are usually **active** verbs (verbs such as *to run*), that refer to an action). **Stative** verbs (such as *to know*), refer to a state, and are usually used in simple tenses, e.g. *I want a new bike* not *I am wanting a new bike* as *to want* is a state, not an action.

Some verbs such as *to see* have both an active and a stative meaning.

LIVEWORKSHEETS