

6 Present Continuous (2)

1 Look at these questions:

*Are you enjoying that drink, Ann?
Is he watching TV at the moment?
Are they working hard?*

2 We form Present Continuous questions like this:

QUESTIONS

	Singular	Am I	}	winning?
	Are you			
	Is she/he/it			
Plural	Are we	}	}	winning?
	Are you			
	Are they			

3 Here are three common Present Continuous questions. They all mean 'How are you?':

*How's it going?
How are you getting on?
How are you doing?*



4 We do not usually use the Present Continuous to talk about opinions or thoughts:

I like tennis. I know your sister. (NOT I'm liking tennis. I'm knowing your sister.)

We do not usually use these verbs in the Present Continuous:

like	know	hate
love	understand	believe
mean	remember	want

5 think and have:

- we cannot use think in the Present Continuous to express opinions:
I think he's nice. (NOT I'm thinking he's nice.)
- we can use think in the Present Continuous to talk about an action:
She's thinking about the film.
- we cannot use have in the Present Continuous to talk about possessions:
I have a ticket. (NOT I am having a ticket.)
- we can use it to talk about actions:
I'm having breakfast. He's having fun.

Practice

A Make questions by putting the words in brackets () in the right order.

- (enjoying – your work – you – are – ?) 1 (she – having lunch – is – ?) 2 (playing football – are – they – ?) 3 (the cat – sleeping – is – ?) 4 (the sun – is – shining – ?) 5 (you – are – coming – to the cinema – ?) 6 (listening – are – they – ?) 7 (eating – at the moment – she – is – ?) 8 (it – raining hard – is – ?) 9 (I – getting better – at tennis – am – ?) 10 (are – winning the match – we – ?)

Are you enjoying your work?
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

B Make questions and answers. Use the Present Continuous.

QUESTIONS

- (she/work/in Peru this year?)
Is she working in Peru this year?.....
- 1 (you/study/English at the moment?)
.....
- 2 (they/listen/to the radio?)
.....
- 3 (Peter/wash/now?)
.....
- 4 (they/live/in Madrid at the moment?)
.....
- 5 (David/sing/in a group this year?)
.....

ANSWERS

- ~ (No, she/study/in Mexico)
- ~ No, she's studying in Mexico.....
- ~ (Yes, I/work/hard)
~
~ (No, they/play/CDs)
~
~ (Yes, he/have/a bath)
~
~ (Yes, they/learn/Spanish)
~
~ (No, he/work/in a restaurant)
~

C Put a tick (✓) next to a correct sentence, and a cross (✗) next to a wrong sentence.

- She's liking pop music. ✗
- He's learning French. ✓
- 1 They're enjoying the film.
- 2 We're loving ice-cream.
- 3 She's believing he's right.
- 4 John's thinking about my idea.
- 5 He's having lunch at the moment.
- 6 She's eating a banana.
- 7 He thinks it's a good idea.
- 8 'Huge' is meaning 'very big'.
- 9 Mick is knowing Jane.
- 10 She's hating classical music.

D Complete this conversation. Use the verbs in brackets () in the Present Continuous.

Paul: Hi Steve! What are you doing?

Steve: (►) I'm going (I/go) to the bank. What are you doing?

Paul: (1) (I/shop). (2) (I/look) for a new tennis racquet. (3) (I/play) a lot of tennis at the moment, and I need a new racquet.

Steve: Where is Jackie? Do you know?

Paul: Yes. She isn't in England at the moment. (4) (She/work) in France for a month.

Steve: What (5) (she/do) in France?

Paul: (6) (She/sing) in a night-club.

Steve: Really? What about Fred and Sue? What (7) (they/do)?

Paul: (8) (They/study) for an exam. They're always in the library at the moment.

Steve: How is your sister? Is she all right?

Paul: Yes, she's fine, but she's tired. (9) (We/paint) the living-room. It's hard work.

Steve: Can I help you?

Paul: No, it's OK. My father (10) (help).

Steve: Well, I hope you find a good racquet.