

# 40 Present continuous (2)



## 1 Form

Yes/No QUESTIONS			SHORT ANSWERS	
Am	I		Yes, I am.	No, I'm not.
Is	he/she/it	sitting here?	Yes, he/she/it is.	No, he/she/it isn't.
Are	we/you/they		Yes, we/you/they are.	No, we/you/they aren't.

Wh- QUESTIONS				
What	am	I		doing?
Where	is	he/she/it		going?
Why	are	we/you/they		running?

In questions, we put *am/is/are* before the subject of the sentence.

We put the *-ing* form after the subject:

*What **are** you **studying** this term?*

*Is she **listening** to the radio?*

- ! ~~X Are waiting you for me?~~
- ~~X Waiting are you for me?~~
- ✓ **Are you waiting for me?**

- ! We don't usually repeat the main verb when we answer questions:

*Is that man **phoning** the police?* ~~X Yes, he is phoning.~~ ✓ **Yes, he is.**

~~X No, he isn't phoning.~~ ✓ **No, he isn't.**

- ! We don't use the short form of the verb in short answers with *yes*.

*Is she sleeping?* ~~X Yes, she's.~~  
✓ **Yes, she is.**

## 2 Use

We often use the present continuous to talk about what is happening in pictures and photos:

*What **are** they **doing**?*

*– They're **watching** a film.*

That's an interesting painting. Is that woman writing something?

No, she isn't. She's reading a letter.

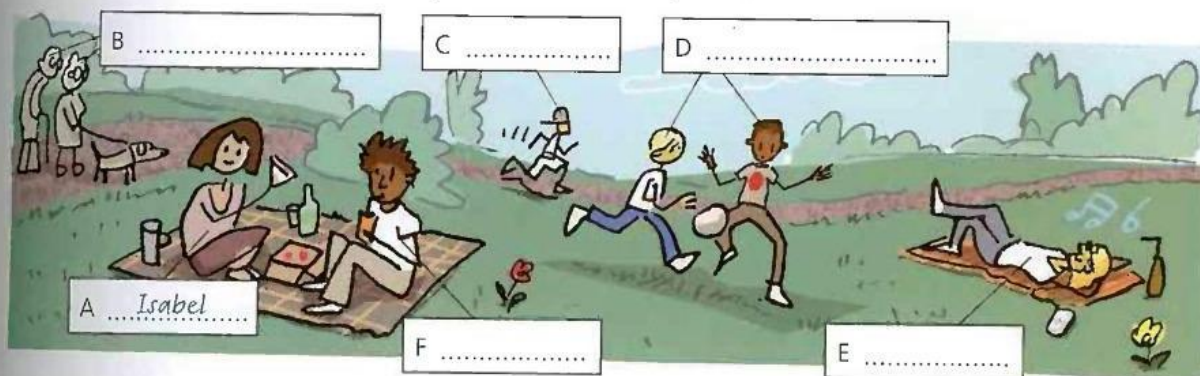


## Practice

- 1 a **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the text. Use the present continuous forms of the verbs in brackets ().

It's a lovely summer afternoon in the park. Robert and Mick (0) are playing (play) football. Miranda (1) ..... (listen) to some music and Carlos (2) ..... (run). My friends Isabel and Rashid (3) ..... (have) a picnic – Isabel (4) ..... (eat) a sandwich and Rashid (5) ..... (drink) a cola. Over there I can see my neighbours, Mr and Mrs Berenson – they (6) ..... (take) their dog for a walk.

- b Now put the correct names by the letters in the picture.



- 2 Complete these questions and answers about the picture in Exercise 1.

- 0 Is Miranda listening to music? Yes, she is.
- 1 ..... Robert and Mick ..... tennis? No, they .....
- 2 ..... Carlos .....? No, he ..... walking, he's .....
- 3 What ..... Isabel .....? She ..... a sandwich.
- 4 What ..... Mr and Mrs Berenson .....? They ..... their dog for a walk.
- 5 ..... Rashid ..... a burger? No, he .....

- 3 Write the questions and short answers.

- 0 it / rain / today? / No, Is it raining today? No, it isn't.
- 1 you / do / your homework? / Yes, .....
- 2 Steven / cook lunch? / No, .....
- 3 the / children watch TV? / Yes, .....
- 4 we / wait / for somebody? / No, .....
- 5 Elizabeth / stay / with her grandparents / this week? / Yes, .....

- 4 Write true answers.

- 0 What are you doing at the moment? I'm doing my homework.
- 1 What are you studying this year? .....
- 2 Where are you sitting right now? .....
- 3 What are you looking at? .....