



2nd Stage

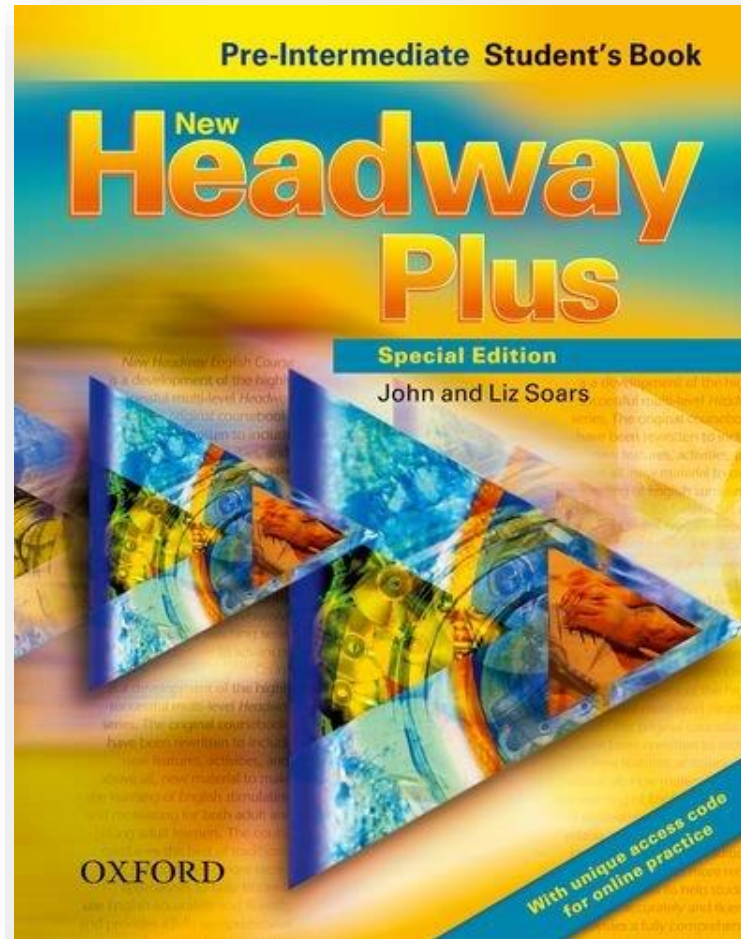
Present Continuous Tense

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Tenses in English

The Present Continuous Tense

S + (be) + ___ing

Singular

I **am learning**
You **are learning**
He **is learning**
She **is learning**
It **is learning**

Plural

We **are learning**
You **are learning**
They **are learning**

EXAMPLE

- ✓ You **are learning** English right now.
- ✓ He **is learning** English at school.
- ✓ They **are learning** English.

The Present Continuous Tense usually describes things that are happening now, but it can also be used to describe important things in your life, and future activity.

Do not confuse the present continuous tense with the "going to" future or with gerunds.

Notice the use of contractions in the examples below.

Contraction: Subject + (be).

Example: He + is = He's

I am eating. → I'm eating

You are eating. → You're eating.

He is eating. → He's eating.

They are eating. → They're eating.



Tenses in English

The Present Continuous Tense

S + (be) + ___ing

This man is eating soup.



She is writing notes.



This boy is getting some cotton candy.





Tenses in English

Questions in the Present Continuous Tense

(Be) + S + ___ing

Singular

- Am** I **learning**?
- Are** you **learning**?
- Is** he **learning**?
- Is** she **learning**?
- Is** it **learning**?

Plural

- Are** we **learning**?
- Are** you **learning**?
- Are** they **learning**?



- **Singular**

Teacher: Are you **learning** English right now?

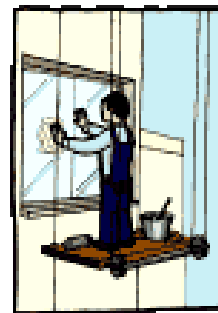
Student: Yes, I **am**.

Teacher: **Am** I **teaching** you English right now?

Student: Yes, you **are**.

Teacher: **Is** he **washing** the window?

Student: Yes, he **is**.





Tenses in English

Questions in the Present Continuous Tense

(Be) + S + ___ing

Singular

Am I **learning**?
Are you **learning**?
Is he **learning**?
Is she **learning**?
Is it **learning**?



- Singular

Teacher: Is she **writing** notes?
Student: Yes, she **is**.



Plural

Are we **learning**?
Are you **learning**?
Are they **learning**?

Teacher: Is it **snowing**?
Student: Yes, it **is**.



Tenses in English

Questions in the Present Continuous Tense

(Be) + S + ___ing

Singular

- Am** I **learning**?
- Are** you **learning**?
- Is** he **learning**?
- Is** she **learning**?
- Is** it **learning**?

Plural

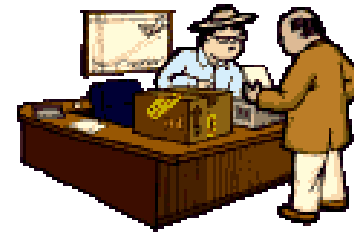
- Are** we **learning**?
- Are** you **learning**?
- Are** they **learning**?



- **Plural**

Question: What **are** we **doing**?

Answer: We're **working** together.



Question: What **are** you **doing**?

Answer: We're **putting** oranges into a basket.



Question: What **are** they **doing**?

Answer: They're **working**.





Tenses in English

Questions in the Present Continuous Tense

Yes / No Questions

am I eating **ing** chocolate ?

are you studying **ing** now ?

is he working **ing** ?

is she doing **ing** her homework ?

is it raining **ing** ?

are we meeting **ing** at six ?

are they coming **ing** ?

Wh Questions

Why **am** I eating **ing** chocolate ?

What **are** you studying **ing** now ?

When **is** he working **ing** ?

What **is** she doing **ing** ?

Why **is** it raining **ing** ?

Who **are** we meeting **ing** ?

How **are** they travelling **ing** ?



Tenses in English

Negative in the Present Continuous Tense

S + (be) + not ___ing

Singular

I **am not** learning
You **are not** learning
He **is not** learning
She **is not** learning
It **is not** learning

Plural

We **are not** learning
You **are not** learning
They **are not** learning



Negative

I **am not** sleeping
you **are not** playing
he **is not** reading
she **is not** working
it **is not** raining
we **are not** cooking
they **are not** listening

Negative Short Form

I'm **not** sleeping
you **aren't** playing
he **isn't** reading
she **isn't** working
it **isn't** raining
we **aren't** cooking
they **aren't** listening



Tenses in English

Present Continuous Uses

USE 1 Now



Use the present continuous with [normal verbs](#) to express the idea that something is happening now, at this very moment. It can also be used to show that something is not happening now.

- You **are learning** English now.
- You **are not swimming** now.
- **Are you sleeping?**
- I **am sitting**.
- I **am not standing**.
- **Is he sitting** or **standing**?
- They **are reading** their books.
- They **are not watching** television.
- What **are you doing**?
- Why **aren't you doing** your homework?





Tenses in English

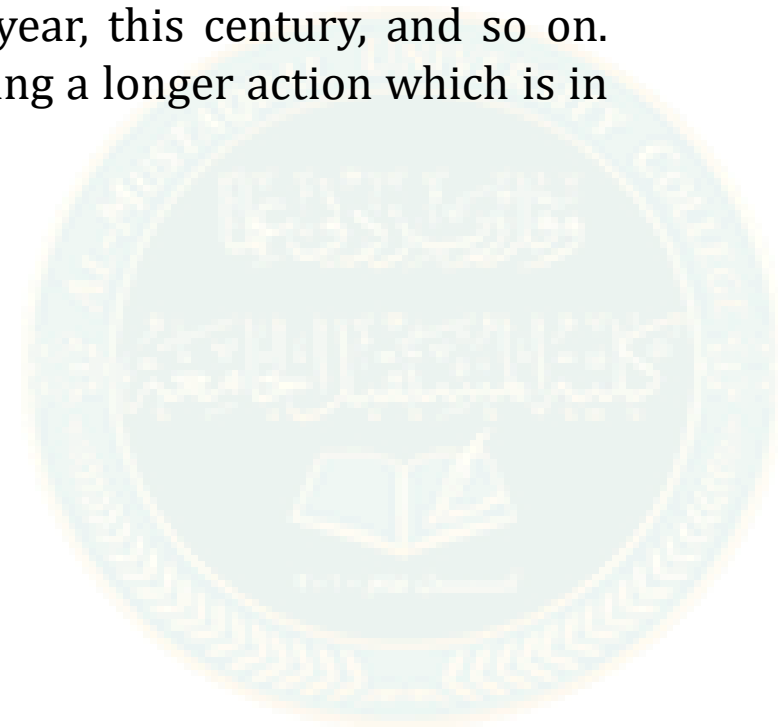
Present Continuous Uses

USE 2 Longer Actions in Progress Now



In English, *now* can mean different things: this second, today, this month, this year, this century, and so on. Sometimes, we use the present continuous to say that we are in the process of doing a longer action which is in progress; however, we might not be doing it at this exact second.

- I **am studying** to become a doctor.
- I **am not studying** to become a dentist.
- I **am not reading** any books right now.
- **Are you working** on any special projects at work?
- **Aren't you teaching** at the university now?





Tenses in English

Present Continuous Uses

USE 3 Near Future



Sometimes, speakers use the present continuous to indicate that something will or will not happen in the near future.

- I **am meeting** some friends after work.
- I **am not going** to the party tonight.
- **Is** he **visiting** his parents next weekend?
- **Isn't** he **coming** with us tonight?

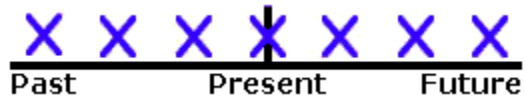




Tenses in English

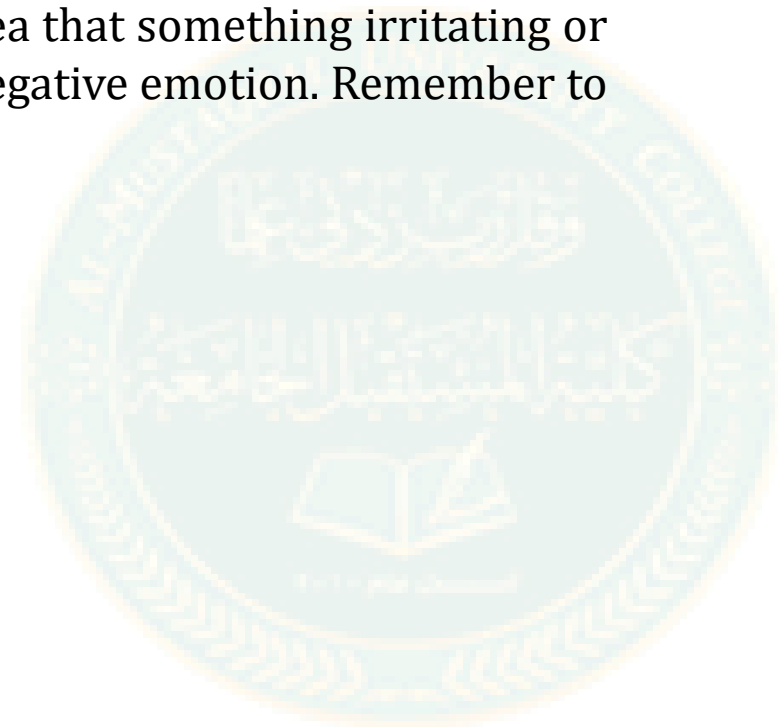
Present Continuous Uses

USE 4 Repetition and Irritation with Always



The present continuous with words such as *always* or *constantly* expresses the idea that something irritating or shocking often happens. Notice that the meaning is like simple present, but with negative emotion. Remember to put the words *always* or *constantly* between *be* and *verb+ing*.

- She **is always coming** to class late.
- He **is constantly talking**. I wish he would shut up.
- I don't like them because they **are always complaining**.





Tenses in English

Stative verbs

We do not normally use the continuous **with stative verbs**. Stative verbs include:

➤ verbs of **thinking and feeling**:

<i>believe</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>recognise</i>	<i>understand</i>
<i>dislike</i>	<i>hate</i>	<i>remember</i>	<i>want</i>
<i>know</i>	<i>prefer</i>	<i>suppose</i>	<i>wish</i>
<i>like</i>	<i>realise</i>	<i>think (= believe)</i>	

➤ verbs of the senses:

<i>appear</i>	<i>look</i>	<i>smell</i>	<i>taste</i>
<i>feel</i>	<i>seem</i>	<i>sound</i>	





Tenses in English

Stative verbs

We do not normally use the continuous **with stative verbs**. Stative verbs include:

➤ others:

<i>agree</i>	<i>belong</i>	<i>need</i>	<i>own</i>
<i>be</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>owe</i>	<i>possess</i>

We normally use the simple instead:

- She **is loving** this chocolate ice cream. **Not Correct**
- She **loves** this chocolate ice cream. **Correct**
- I **am understanding** you. **Not Correct**
- I **understand** you. **Correct**





Tenses in English

Practice

- i. He _____ the bus to work today. (take)
- ii. The stores at that mall _____ new employees. (hire)
- iii. My mother _____ me next month. (visit)
- iv. We _____ lunch right now. (have)
- v. My car _____ strange noises. (make)
- vi. We _____ anything this weekend. (Negative - do)
- vii. The people from Romania _____ today. (Negative - come)
- viii. I _____ a new car this year. (Negative - buy)
- ix. _____ you _____ today? (Negative - work)
- x. Why _____ he _____ you? (Negative - help)
- xi. What _____ you _____ in your garden? (grow)
- xii. _____ they _____ you at the airport? (meet)
- xiii. When _____ your sister _____? (come)
- xiv. _____ you _____ any fun? (Negative - have)
- xv. _____ George _____ his room? (Negative - clean)

