



Present Continuous Tense

The present continuous tense is used to describe an action that is unfinished or incomplete or happening at the moment of speaking.

FORM

[am/is/are + present participle]

Examples:

Positive Form

- You **are watching** TV.

Interrogative Form

- **Are you watching** TV?

Negative Form

- You **are not watching** TV.

When to Use Present Continuous Tense



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.

Examples:

- You **are learning** English now.
- You **are not swimming** now.
- **Are you sleeping?**
- I **am not standing**.

When to Use Present Continuous Tense

USE 2 : Longer Actions in Progress Now

In English, "now" can mean: 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.

Examples:

- I **am reading** the book '*The sisterhood*'.
- I **am not reading** any books right now.
- **Are you working** on any special projects at work?

When to Use Present Continuous Tense

USE 3 : Before or after a particular time

We use the Present Continuous for something which is happening before and after a given time.

Examples:

- At eight o'clock we are usually having breakfast.
- When I get home the children are doing their homework

USE 4 : Temporary

We use the Present Continuous for something which we think is temporary.

Examples:

- Michael is at university. He's **studying** history.
- I'm **working** in London for the next two weeks.

When to Use Present Continuous Tense

USE 5 : New and contrast

We use the Present Continuous for something which is **new** and **contrasts** with a previous state.

Examples:

- These days most people **are using** email instead of writing letters.
- What sort of clothes **are teenagers wearing** nowadays?

USE 6: Change of state

We use the Present Continuous to show that something is changing, growing or developing.

Examples:

- The children **are growing** quickly.
- The climate **is changing** rapidly.

When to Use Present Continuous Tense



USE 7 : Near Future

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

Examples:

- 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?

When to Use Present Continuous Tense



USE 8 : 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."

Examples:

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

Exercise : Present Continuous Tense

1. Listen to the birds. They (sing) _____ .
2. Look at that one. It (fly) _____ high in the sky.
3. I feel happy because I (have) _____ a good time here in these woods.
4. What (do, you) _____ next week?
5. She (stay) _____ with her friend for a week.
6. He (eat) _____ a lot these days.
7. They (be, forever) _____ late.
8. I (meet) _____ my father tomorrow.

Exercise : Present Continuous Tense

Complete the table in Present Continuous Tense.

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
You are learning English.		
	She is not studying.	
		Are they coming for lunch?

Put the sentences into present continuous tense.

1. The summers were getting warmer.
2. They were playing football.
3. Sara carried her handbag.
4. She drank the whole glass of milk.

Reviewed By	Reviewed On	Comments / Changes Made
Vidyesh	21.09.2015	N.A.
Jinal	04-05-2016	Change the no in click notes for slide 10