

Grammar reference

Unit 5

Present continuous: affirmative and negative

+	I	am	running.
	He/She/It	is	
	We/You/They	are	
-	I	'm not	
	He/She/It	isn't	
	We/You/They	aren't	

- We use the present continuous to talk about actions in progress at the time of speaking.
We're learning English. I'm reading this book.
- We form the present continuous with **subject + be (not/n't) + verb + ing**.
He's laughing. He isn't crying.

Spelling: -ing form

- With most verbs, we add **-ing** to the verb.
eat – eating
- Verbs that end in **-e**, remove the **-e** and add **-ing**.
write – writing
- Verbs that end in a vowel and a consonant, double the final consonant and add **-ing**.
stop – stopping

1 Write the -ing form of the verbs.

- | | | | |
|--------|----------------------------|---------|------|
| 1 run | <i>running</i> | 4 play | |
| 2 help | | 5 write | |
| 3 stop | | 6 swim | |

2 Write affirmative and negative sentences in the present continuous.

- He / read / a comic. (✓)
He's reading a comic.
- They / listen / to us. (X)
- Laura / do / her homework. (✓)
- He / work / on this exercise. (X)
- We / go / to our Art class. (✓)
- Joe / eat / his lunch. (X)

3 Re-write the sentences in Exercise 2 so they are true for you.

I'm not reading a comic.

Present continuous: questions and short answers

?	(What)	am	I	writing?
		is	he/she/it	
		are	we/you/they	
+	Yes,	I am.		
		he/she/it is.		
		we/you/they are.		
-	No,	I'm not.		
		he/she/it isn't.		
		we/you/they aren't.		

- To form **yes/no** questions, we use **be + -ing**. To give a short answer, we don't use the verb + **-ing**.
Are you listening? Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
- For **Wh-** questions, we put the question word before **be**.
Where are you going? What are you doing?

Present simple and present continuous

- We use the present simple to talk about facts, habits and routines.
- We use the present continuous to talk about actions in progress at the time of speaking.
I read a lot of comics. At the moment, I'm reading Superman!
- We use adverbs of frequency with the present simple. We use *at the moment* and *now* with the present continuous.

4 Complete the questions and short answers.

- Am* I *helping*? (help) (✓) *Yes, you are.*
- he? (smile) (✓)
- they? (dance) (X)
- she her teeth? (brush) (X)
- they dinner? (have) (✓)

5 Complete the sentences with the present simple or present continuous.

- We *go* swimming on Friday. (go)
- I to the football. It's 2-1! (listen)
- When you your friends? (see)
- you French? (understand)
- It, but I don't want to go out. (not rain)
- I can't see you! Where you? (hide)