Present Continuous

The present continuous verb tense indicates that an action or condition is happening now, frequently, and may continue into the future.

To form the present continuous, follow this formula:

Subject + **To Be** [Am, Is, Are] + **Verb -ing** (affirmative)

Subject + **To Be** [Am, Is, Are] + **Not** + **Verb -ing** (negative)

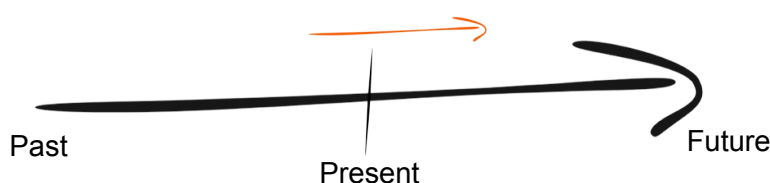**To Be** [Am, Is, Are] + Subject + **Verb -ing** (interrogative)

When to Use the Present Continuous Tense

Use the present continuous tense with the appropriate "**to be**" verb and a **dynamic verb**. A dynamic verb shows action and/or process. For example:

*"The developers **are coding** a complex algorithm for data analysis."*
*"Our team **is not experiencing** any major software bugs right 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.

Past   Present   Future

*" I **am studying** English now."*
*" They **aren't fixing** the bug this week."*
*" **Are** you **working** on the project beta?"*

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.