

Language Focus



Keep In Touch with The Internet

Present Continuous Tense

This tense is used to show an action that is occurring in that current moment. It is also referred to as the present progressive tense as they represent the action that is progressing in the present. The main formula of present continuous tense is:

Subject + am/is/are + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence

The detail formula can be seen as follow:

Positive	Negative	Interrogative	Negative Interrogative
S+am/is/are + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence	Subject + am/is/are + not + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence	Am/is/are + subject + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence	Isn't/aren't + subject + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence (Or) Am/is/are + subject + not + present participle (verb+ing) + the rest of the sentence

Positive	Negative	Interrogative	Negative Interrogative
I am reading a newspaper.	I am not reading a newspaper.	Am I reading a newspaper?	Am I not reading a newspaper?
You are doing it wrong.	You are not doing it wrong.	Are you doing it wrong?	Are you not doing it wrong? / Aren't you doing it wrong?
He is playing tennis	He is not playing tennis	Is he playing tennis?	Is he not playing tennis? / Isn't he playing tennis

Present continuous tense is also generally used to talk about:

1. An action that is happening or progressing in the moment that the speaker is speaking. For example:

- My son **is working** on his science project.
- Santana **is singing** Let's Kill This Love.

2. It is used to depict a future event or arrangement. For example:

- What **are** you **planning** to do tomorrow?
- I heard that Rachel **is moving** to Paris next month.

3. It is used to denote an action that is going on or continuing at the time of speaking. For example:

- **Is** she still **working** at the National Institute of Medical Sciences?
- I **am** currently **taking** guitar lessons so that I could play for your wedding.

Exercise

Match the sentence halves 1-8 to a-h.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hanka is creating | a) the software. |
| 2. Philip is inserting an | b) a check-up. |
| 3. Rob is troubleshooting | c) a file. |
| 4. We are running | d) a device. |
| 5. Betty is connecting | e) CDs. |
| 6. They are burning | f) image. |