

Present Progressive





CHECK POINT

Check the best advertisement for this TV news show.

- ☑ It's happening now!
- ☐ It happens every day!

CHART CHECK 1

Check the correct answer.

The present progressive is made up of two parts:

- **be** + base form of verb
- **be** + base form of verb + -ing

Which part changes with different subjects?

- ☑ be
- □ base form of verb + -ing

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS

SUBJECT	BE	Base Form of Verb + -ING
1	am ′m	
He/She/It	is 's	waiting.
We/You*/They	are 're	

*You is both singular and plural.

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS			
SUBJECT	BE	Not	BASE FORM OF VERB + -ING
I	am ′m		
He/She/It	is 's	not	waiting.
We/You/They	are ′re		

CHART CHECK 2

Circle T (True) or F (False).

T F In questions, **be** comes after the subject.

YES/NO QUESTIONS

BE	SUBJECT	BASE FORM + -ING
Am	I	
ls	she	standing?
Are	you	

SHORT ANSWERS

AF	FIRMAT	'IVE		N EGA ⁻	TIVE
	you	are.		you	aren't.
Yes,	she	is.	No,	she	isn't.
	1	am.]		'm not.

WH- QUESTIONS			
WH- WORD	BE	Subject	Base Form + -ing
Why Where	am	1	standing?
	is	she	
	are	you	

EXPRESS

Complete these sentences with the present progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

lleaving lare performing ? Thev ___

Grammar Explanations

Examples

- 1. Use the present progressive to describe something that is happening right now.
 - Now standing
- I'm standing outside the King Theater right now.
- As I'm talking to you, the fans are gathering in front of the theater.
- 2. Use the present progressive to describe it's not happening right now.
 - something that is happening these days, even if
 - Now
- The Airheads are playing at the King Theater this week.
- I'm studying guitar this semester.

- 3. Usage Note: The contracted form is usually used in speech and in informal writing.
- A: Bye, Jana, we're leaving now.
- B: Wait! I'm coming with you.

Check it out!

For different forms of negative contractions with be, see Appendix 24 on page 345. For spelling rules for the present progressive, see Appendix 19 on page 343.



IDENTIFY • Read this letter. Underline the present progressive verbs that describe something happening right now. Circle the present progressive verbs that describe things that are happening these days (but not necessarily right now).

Dear Yev,

I(m working) very hard these days, but I have some good news. Right now,

I'm sitting at a desk in the Entertainment Section of the Tribune! Of course I'm

still taking journalism classes at night as well. The job is temporary—Joe Sims,
the regular reporter, is taking this month off to write a book. This week (we're

preparing to interview your favorite group, the Airheads. In fact, at this very
moment they're flying into town by helicopter. They're performing at the King
Theater all week. How are you doing? Are you still writing music? Oops! The
crew is calling me. They're leaving for the theater now. Write soon!

Steph



COMPLETE • Read this conversation. Complete it with the present progressive form of the verbs in parentheses. Use contractions whenever possible.

Bev:	Bye, Joe, I 'm leaving now.
Joe:	Where you going ?
Bev:	Running. Ann rewaiting downstairs.
Joe:	Great! Why don't you take the dog out with you?
Bev:	Why don't you take him? It's your turn.
Joe:	I can't. I on my book on my book.
Bev:	But you aren't doing anything right now. You are just
	sitting there.
Joe:	That's not true. I here, but I also
	thinking about my work. Can't the dog run with you?
Bev:	No, because afterwards we want to go to the Plaza. The Airheads
	're staying there this week, and Ann wants to get their autographs. 9. (stay)
	You know she's a big fan of theirs.



ASK & ANSWER • Steph is interviewing the lead singer of the Airheads, Paul. Write questions using the words in parentheses. Give short answers.

STEPH:	Paulare you intro	ducing any new songs on this tour?			
	,	1. (introduce / any new songs on this tour?)			
PAUL:	Yes, we are	. We're introducing some songs from our			
I Hell.	2.	. We're introducing some songs from our			
	new album, In the A	Air.			
STEPH:	TEPH: Your fans are so excited to see you after such a long time. why are you taking tour again?				
~121111					
	3. (Why / tour / again?)				
		3. (Wily / tour / again:)			
PAUL:	We want to play for live audiences. We need that.				
STEPH:	what are you working on these days?				
STEPH:		4. (What / work on / these days?)			
DATITA	Some everiting new meterial. But we're not talking about it wet				
FAUL:	Some exciting new material. But we're not talking about it yet.				
STEPH:	who is singing with you now				
		5. (Who / sing / with you now?)			
	She has a nice voice.				
Paul:	Sylvia Sylva is singing some of the songs from the album.				
	• •	is she replacing to Toti?			
STEPH:		6. (she / replace / Toti?)			
Paul:	No, She is	n't			
	7.	. Toti has a new baby, but she'll be back in			
	a few months.				



EDIT • Read this letter. Find and correct six mistakes in the use of the present progressive. The first mistake is already corrected.

