



Present Continuous Tense

Grammar > Beginner 3



Exercise 1 – Learning

How to Form the Present Continuous Tense

Put the helping verb '**be**' before the verb in '**-ing**' form:

be + verb-ing.

When adding **-ing** to a verb, there are some general spelling rules:

1. If a verb ends in an **-e** which is not pronounced (as in 'make'), you should drop the **-e**, and add **-ing**:

- make + ing: I am **making** dinner. (*not 'makeing'*)

However, if a verb ends in **-ee**, **-oe**, or **-ye**, just add **-ing**:

- see + ing: Are you **seeing** what I see?
- dye + ing: Are you **dyeing** your hair?



2. If a verb has more than one syllable and ends with one vowel + one consonant (as in 'begin'), and has the stress at the end of the word, then double the final consonant:

- begin + ing: Hurry up, the class is **beginning**! (*not 'begining'*)

3. If a verb has one syllable, ends with one vowel + one consonant (as in 'sit'), then double the final consonant:

- sit + ing: He's **sitting** on the floor. (*not 'siting'*)
- put + ing: They're **putting** the clothes in the laundry machine.



Present Continuous Tense Usage

We use the present continuous tense to talk about:

1. Something that is happening right now:

- I **walk** to school every day. → I **am walking** to school right now.
- He **sleeps** 10 hours a day. → He **is sleeping** now. Be quiet!

2. Something that has *not* happened yet, but will happen soon:

- The boys **are playing** soccer today. (= the boys will play soccer today)
- Class **is starting** in five minutes! (= class will start in five minutes)



Exercise 2 – Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the verb in the present continuous form.

1. I _____ right now. (study)
2. He _____ coffee. (drink)
3. They _____ to a picnic. (go)
4. She _____ a book. (read)
5. It _____. (rain)
6. We _____. (run)
7. The teacher _____ in two minutes. (start)
8. Lisa and Peter _____ TV right now. (watch)



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: I clean my room now. → I am cleaning my room now.

Content:

1. I do the dishes now.
2. You walk to the bus stop.
3. He goes to a party.
4. We exercise.
5. They sleep.
6. The children play now.