

The present continuous: part II

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Beginner

NUMBER
EN_BE_1167G

LANGUAGE
English



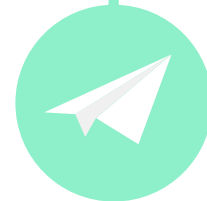


Goals

- Can distinguish between the present simple and present continuous
- Can choose which tense is appropriate and form simple sentences in both



Usually **I work** in my office in London.
Today, **I am working** in a big office in
Dubai!





Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, you will review and learn more about **how** and **when** to use the **present continuous**.



He **is having** a lovely meal with his clients.



Review the present continuous

- Use the **present continuous** when talking about things you are doing right now
- Form the present continuous with **to be** and **verb + ing**

Personal Pronoun	Present continuous
I	am working.
You	are writing an email.
He, she, it	is speaking to John.
We	are learning English at work.



Speaking in the present continuous



When we speak in the present continuous, we often combine the **personal pronoun** and the form of ***to be***.

I am working	→	I'm working
You are working	→	You're working
He is working	→	He's working
We are working	→	We're working
They are working	→	They're working



Complete the sentence

1. Emily and Mike _____ on the phone.

- a. am reading b. are speaking c. is working d. are making**

2. For lunch, Rick _____ a salad at his desk.

- a. are working b. is reading c. am going d. is having**

3. We _____ all day today.

- a. am reading b. is speaking c. are working d. is working**



Complete the sentence

1. _____ am sitting at my desk.

a. you

b. I

2. He _____ reading an email.

a. is

b. are

3. We are _____ dinner with our clients.

a. eat

b. eating

4. We _____ breakfast in our office.

a. having

b. are having



Speaking

What are they doing?





Forming questions with the present continuous

To form a question in the present continuous, the **verb** comes first and the **subject pronoun** comes second.

Statement	Question
You are working.	Are you working?
She is drinking orange juice.	Is she drinking orange juice?
They are having breakfast at work.	Are they having breakfast at work?



Present simple vs. present continuous

The **present continuous** is used for things happening right now or are in progress.

For things you normally do, use the **present simple**.

With the **present simple** we often use ***always***, ***usually*** or ***every day***.

With the **present continuous** we often use **now** or **today**.

Present Simple	Present Continuous
I work every day.	I am working right now.
She calls her boss on Tuesdays.	She is calling her boss now.
I drink water at company dinners.	I'm drinking water at my company dinner today.
You order food for our business lunch.	You're ordering food for our business lunch.



Dialogue

Fill in the gaps with the present continuous verbs and then practise the conversation with a colleague.



Hi Amy, _____ you _____ (work)?

I _____ (write) an email to my client. What _____ you
_____ (do)?



I _____ (call) the catering company to order some food.



Make negative statements in the present continuous

you / work

he / speak to his boss

we / order food for
the event

they / write an email



Write the sentence as a question

1. You are talking to your manager.



2. We are eating breakfast at work.



3. She is reading a document.



4. They are drinking water at the company dinner.





What are they doing?

A



B



C



D





Match the sentences

1. I...

a. every day.

2. He eats lunch at work...

b. works from 8am – 5pm.

3. He...

c. am ordering some food for our company breakfast.

4. She always...

d. are eating breakfast with their colleagues.

5. They...

e. is having a salad at his desk.



Present simple or continuous

Choose the correct form of the verb.

1. Sue usually **eats/is eating** breakfast at work.
2. Harry **works/is working** at home today.
3. I **talk/am talking** to my boss right now.
4. They **speak/are speaking** English every day.



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the present simple or present continuous.

1. I usually _____ (work) in the morning. Today I _____ (work) in the afternoon.
2. Julia always _____ (talk) to her boss on the phone. Julia _____ (talk) to her boss right now.
3. They _____ (order) the food for our company breakfast today. They always _____ (order) the food for company events.





Speaking

Answer these questions with your colleagues.



1

What time do you usually work?



2

What time are you working today?



3

What are you doing at work today?



Writing

What is he doing? Write three sentences.

He is...

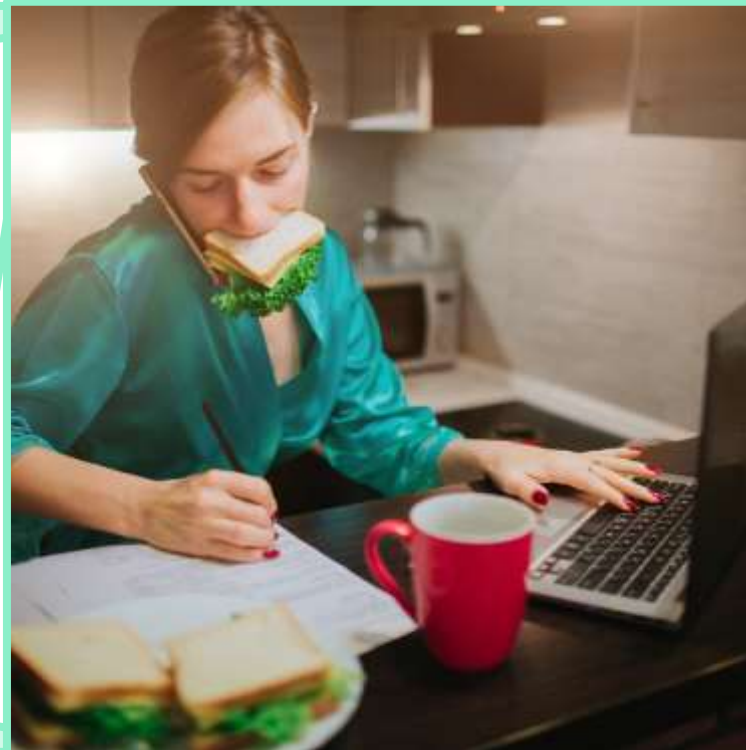
He's...





Game

■ What is she doing?



She is...



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Exercise p. 6
1. B 2. D 3. C

Exercise p. 7
1. B 2. A 3. B 4. B

Exercise p. 11
Are you working? I am writing, What are you doing? I am calling

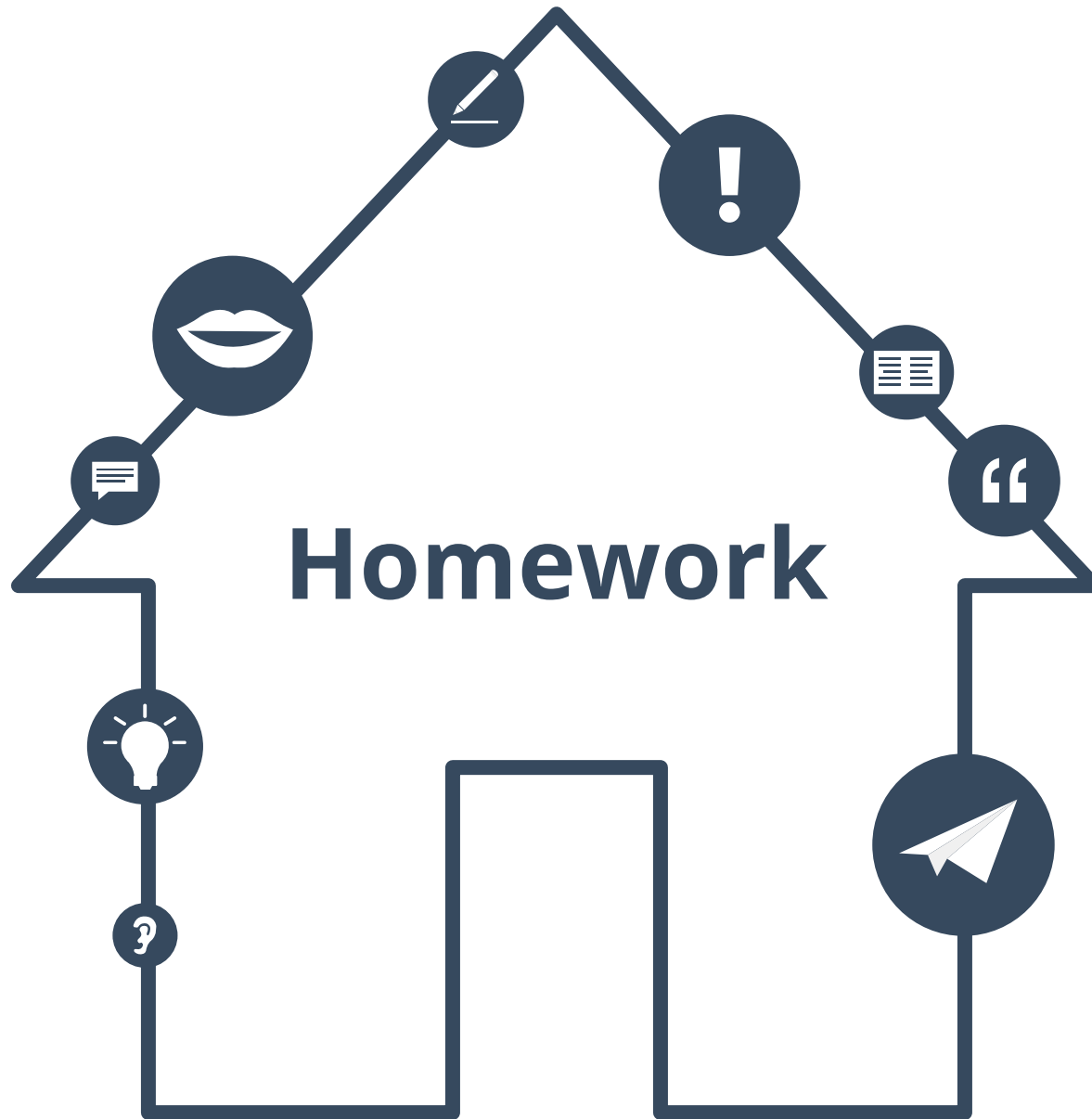
Exercise p. 12
You are not working, He is not speaking to his boss, We are not ordering food for the event, They are not writing an email

Exercise p. 13
Are you talking, Are we eating, Is she reading, Are they drinking

Exercise p. 14
1. C, 2. A, 3. E, 4. B, 5. D

Exercise p. 16
1. eats, 2. is working, 3. am talking, 4. are speaking

Exercise p. 17
1. work, am working, 2. talks, is talking, 3. are ordering, order





Transform from present simple to continuous

1. I work.

→ I am working.

2. She works.



3. We work.



4. We talk to our boss.



5. They eat lunch at work.



6. Sue eats breakfast at her desk.



7. I speak English.



8. You sit at your desk.





Writing

Write sentences in the present continuous using the verbs.

work

order

speak

write

read

talk





Homework answer key

Exercise p. 26

2. She is working. 3. We are working. 4. We are talking to our boss. 5. They are eating lunch at work. 6. Sue is eating breakfast at her desk. 7. I am speaking English. 8. You are sitting at your desk.



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