



Unit 2 – Present Continuous (*I am eating..*)

John is a hockey player, but now he isn't playing hockey.
He is at home right now, watching television.



Actions **happening now** (continuing now) are the present continuous.

I	am	I'm	watching tv.
He/she/it	is	He's , etc.	arriving soon.
We/you/they	are	We're , etc.	heading downtown.

-> Use the present continuous to talk about things that are happening right now (at this moment).



Present Continuous Time Expressions:		Examples:
now / right now	nowadays / these days	Carrie is studying right now .
at the moment / at this moment	currently / presently	Currently , Steve is playing games.

A) Patterns for positive sentences – 'be' + verb(ing):

Verb Tense:	Pronouns:	Contraction + Example:
Singular	I am / you are / he is / she is / it is	She's driving to work at the moment.
Plural	We are / you are / they are	They're meeting at 4pm in the break room.

Tip: -> You can change the pronoun to a noun. E.g.: **Carol** is driving to work at the moment.

B) Patterns for negative sentences – 'be' + not + verb(ing):

Verb Tense:	Pronouns:	Contraction + Example:
Singular	I am not / you are not / he is not / she is not / it is not	It's not raining right now. <i>or:</i> It isn't raining right now.
Plural	We are not / you are not / they are not	We're not talking. <i>or:</i> We aren't talking.

Tip: -> Note that 'you' is both **singular** (one person) **AND plural** (two or more people).

C) Patterns for Yes/No questions – 'be' + subject + verb(ing):

Verb Tense:	Pronouns:	Contraction + Example:
Singular	am I? / are you? / is he? / is she? / is it?	Yes, you are. / Yes, it is. / Yes, she is. etc. No, you aren't . <i>or:</i> No, you're not . etc.
Plural	are we? / are you? / are they?	Yes, we are. <i>or:</i> No, we aren't . / No, we're not.

Tip: -> You can change the pronoun to a noun. E.g.: **Is Steve** talking to his mom?

D) Patterns for Wh- questions – 'Wh' + be + subject + verb(ing):

Verb Tense:	Pronouns:	Contraction + Example:
Singular	What are you..? / Why is she..? Where is it..?	I'm doing the dishes. <i>or:</i> She's going to the bank.
Plural	When are they..? / Who are we..?	They're meeting us tomorrow.

Tip: -> You can change the pronoun to a noun. E.g.: **Rachel** is studying in her room.



E) Spelling Rules for the Present Continuous:

1.	If the verb ends in a 'Consonant-Vowel-Consonant' pattern, double the last consonant	shop -> shopping begin -> beginning
2.	If the verb ends in an 'e' -> replace the 'e' with 'ing'	live -> living / lose -> losing
3.	For most other cases -> just add 'ing' to the base verb	patch -> patching / cry -> crying

Unit 2 – Exercises:

2.1 – Find the errors in each sentence and then rewrite the sentence correctly.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. My friends is having lunch now. | 1. My friends <u>are</u> having lunch now. |
| 2. Sarah and her family are skiing today. | 2. _____. |
| 3. What do you do at the moment? | 3. _____? |
| 4. She's walking in the park yesterday. | 4. _____. |
| 5. Kevin is writing his final class essay. | 5. _____. |
| 6. Are you listening radio right now? | 6. _____? |
| 7. Currently, Matt cooks dinner. | 7. _____. |

2.2 – Look at the underlined answers and write appropriate 'Wh' questions.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. I'm taking vitamins <u>because I want to lose weight</u> . | 1. Why are you taking vitamins? |
| 2. We are walking <u>to the park</u> . | 2. _____? |
| 3. I am doing <u>really well</u> . How about you? | 3. _____? |
| 4. I'm talking <u>to my manager</u> at the moment. | 4. _____? |
| 5. Sean is buying <u>milk and eggs</u> at the supermarket. | 5. _____? |
| 6. The team is meeting <u>at 10am</u> this morning. | 6. _____? |

2.3 – Put the verb into the correct form, either **positive** (I'm going) or **negative** (I'm not going).

- Dad is looking** (Dad / look) for his keys. Do you know where they are?
- Tracy is at the beach. _____ (She / work) today.
- I need a coffee. _____ (I / get) sleepy.
- You can turn off the tv. _____ (I / watch) it anymore today.
- Andrew is at the gym. _____ (He / work out) until 10pm.
- Sharon has a big test tomorrow. _____ (She / meet) her friends today.

2.4 – Complete the sentences with either the **simple present** or **present continuous** grammar forms.

- Look! Somebody is **playing** guitar over there in the park. (play)
- Jessica _____ tea after dinner more than coffee. (prefer)
- I'll show you how to sew a button on a shirt. Please _____ at me. (look)
- I'm not _____ to work this morning. I'm just too sick! (go)
- In the summertime our family _____ weekends at our cottage. (spend)
- We are _____ to the station instead of _____ today. (walk / drive)
- _____ Sandra _____ organic food? (like)
- I really respect Tina. She _____ any meat in her diet. (not / eat)
- It's _____ sunny outside now. It's _____ anymore. (get / not rain)
- The boys _____ soccer in the park every day after school. (practice)
- _____ you _____ who that person is over there? (know)
- Sandra has been running every night. She is really _____ faster! (get)