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## Unit

## 1 Present Continuous (I am doing)

A
Study this example situation:
Sarah is in her car. She is on her way to work. She's driving to work. (= She is driving ...)

This means: she is driving now, at the time of speaking.
The action is not finished.
am/is/are +-ing is the present continuous:

| I | am | (= l'm $)$ | driving |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| he/she/it | is | (= he's, etc.) | working <br> doing, etc. |
| we/you/they | are | (= we're, etc.) | dol |



B I am doing something $=\mid$ started doing it, and I haven't finished. I'm in the middle of doing it.
$\bigcirc$ Please don't make so much noise. I'm trying to work. (not I try)
"Where's Mark?" "He's taking a shower." (not He takes a shower)
Let's go out now. It isn't raining anymore. (not It doesn't rain)
How's your new job? Are you enjoying it?
What's all that noise? What's going on? or What's happening?
Sometimes the action is not happening at the time of speaking. For example:
Steve is talking to a friend on the phone. He says:


Steve says "I'm reading ..." but he is not reading the book at the time of speaking.
He means that he has started reading the book but has not finished it yet. He is in the middle of reading it.

Some more examples:
Kate wants to work in Italy, so she's learning Italian.
(but perhaps she isn't learning Italian at the time of speaking)
Some friends of mine are building their own house. They hope to finish it next summer.
You can use the present continuous with today, this week, this year, etc. (periods around now):
$\bigcirc$ A: You're working hard today. (not You work hard today)
B: Yes, I have a lot to do.
The company I work for isn't doing so well this year.
We use the present continuous when we talk about a change that has started to happen. We often use these verbs in this way:

| getting | changing | increasing | rising | starting |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| becoming | improving | growing | falling | beginning |Is your English getting better? (not Does your English get better)The population of the world is increasing very fast. (not increases)

At first I didn't like my job, but I'm starting to enjoy it now. (not I start)

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## Exercises

1.1 What's happening in the pictures? Choose from these verbs:

1.2 The sentences on the right follow those on the left. Which sentence goes with which?
1 Please don't make so much noise.
2 We need to leave soon.
3 I don't have anywhere to live right now.
4 I need to eat something soon.
5 They don't need their car anymore.
6 Things are not so good at work.
7
8
8 What they say isn't true.

| a I'm getting hungry. |
| :--- |
| b They're lying. |
| c It's starting to rain. |
| d They're trying to sell it. |
| e It's getting late. |
| f I'm trying to work. |
| g I'm staying with friends. |
| h The company is losing money. |

1 f
$\qquad$
$3 \times$
4.
$5 \times$
$6 \times$
7 ...
8 -
1.3 Write questions. Use the present continuous.

1.4 Put the verb into the correct form, affirmative (I'm doing, etc.) or negative (I'm not doing, etc.).

1 Please don't make so much noise. ...I'm trying .... (I / try) to work.
2 Let's go out now. ...It isn't raining .... (it / rain) anymore.
You can turn off the music. ..... (I / listen) to it.
4 Kate called last night. She's on a trip with friends.
(She / have) a great time and doesn't want to come back.
5 Andrew started evening classes recently. $\qquad$ (He / learn) Japanese.
6 Jason and Sarah have had an argument and now $\qquad$ (they / speak) to each other.
The situation is already very bad, and now (it / get) worse.

9 (I look) for Allison. Do you know where she is?
10 The washing machine has been repaired. (It / work) now.
11 $\qquad$ Ben is a student, but he's not very happy.
uild) a new hospital. It will be fin
(He / enjoy) his courses.
13
4 Dan has been in the same job for a long time. (The weather / change). I think it's going to rain. bored with it.

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## Unit <br> 2 Simple Present (I do)

A
Study this example situation:


Alex is a bus driver, but now he is asleep in bed. He is not driving a bus. (He is asleep.) but He drives a bus. (He is a bus driver.)
drive(s), work(s), do(es), etc., is the simple present:

| I/we/you/they | drive/work/do, etc. |
| ---: | :--- |
| he/she/it | drives/works/does, etc. |

B We use the simple present to talk about things in general. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general:

Nurses take care of patients in hospitals.
I usually leave for work at 8 a.m.
The earth goes around the sun.
The coffee shop opens at 7:30 in the morning.
We say:

| I work | but he works | yougo | but | it goes |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| they teach | but | my sister teaches | I have <br> but he has |  |

For spelling (-s or -es), see Appendix 6.
C We use do/does to make questions and negative sentences:

| do <br> does | I/we/you/they <br> he/she/it | work? <br> drive? <br> do? |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\quad$| I/we/you/they |
| ---: |
| he/she/it |$\quad$| don't |
| :--- |
| doesn't | | work |
| :--- |
| drive |
| do |

I come from Japan. Where do you come from?I don't travel a lot.
What does this word mean? (not What means this word?)
Rice doesn't grow in cold climates.
In the following examples, do is also the main verb (do you do / doesn't do, etc.):
"What do you do?" "I work in a store."
He's always so lazy. He doesn't do anything to help us.
We use the simple present to say how often we do things:
I get up at 8:00 every morning.How often do you go to the dentist?Julia doesn't drink coffee very often.
Michael usually plays tennis two or three times a week.
E I promise / I apologize, etc.
Sometimes we do things by saying something. For example, when you promise to do something,
you can say "I promise ..."; when you suggest something, you can say "I suggest ...":
I promise I won't be late.
© "What do you suggest I do?" "I suggest that you ..."
In the same way we say: I agree ... / I advise ... / I insist ... / I refuse ... / I suppose ... , etc.

Simple Present and Present Continuous $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow}$ Units 3-4 Present Tenses with a Future Meaning $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow}$ Unit 18

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## Exercises

2.1 Complete the sentences using the following verbs:

2.2 Put the verb into the correct form.

1 Julia ... doesn't drink (not / drink) coffee very often.
2 What time (the banks / close) here?
3 I have a car, but I (not / use) it very much.
4 Where (Maria / come) from? Is she Colombian?
5 "What
(you / do)?" "I'm an electrician."
6 Look at this sentence. What $\qquad$ (this word / mean)?
7 David isn't in very good shape. He
(not / get) any exercise.
8 lt
... (take) me an hour to get to work in the morning. How long (it / take) you?
2.3 Complete the sentences using these verbs. Sometimes you need the negative.

2.4 You ask Emily questions about herself and her family. Write the questions.

1 You know that Emily plays tennis. You want to know how often. Ask her.
How often do you play tennis ?
2 Perhaps Emily's sister plays tennis too. You want to know. Ask Emily.
3 You know that Emily goes to the movies a lot. You want to know how often. Ask her.
4 You know that Emily's brother works. You want to know what he does. Ask Emily.
5 You're not sure if Emily speaks Spanish. You want to know. Ask her.
6 You don't know where Emily's grandparents live. You want to know. Ask Emily.

### 2.5 Complete using the following:

I agree I apologize I insist I promise I recommend Isuggest

1 Mr. Evans is not in the office today. ... I suggest you try calling him tomorrow.
2 I won't tell anybody what you said.
3 (in a restaurant) You must let me pay for the meal.
4 for what I said. I shouldn't have said it.
5 The new restaurant on Lake Street is very good. it.
6 I think you're absolutely right. with you.

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## Unit Present Continuous and Simple Present 1 <br> 3 (I am doing and I do)

A Compare:

## Present continuous (I am doing)

We use the continuous for things happening at or around the time of speaking.
The action is not complete.

|  | I am doing |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| past | now | future |The water is boiling. Be careful.Listen to those people. What language are they speaking?

Let's go out. It isn't raining now."I'm busy." "What are you doing?"I'm getting hungry. Let's go and eat.
Kate wants to work in Italy, so she's learning Italian.
The population of the world is increasing very fast.
We use the continuous for temporary situations (things that continue for a short time):

I'm living with some friends until I find a place of my own.
A: You're working hard today.
B: Yes, I have a lot to do.
See Unit 1 for more information.

## Simple present (I do)

We use the simple for things in general or things that happen repeatedly.
$\xrightarrow[\text { past }]{\longrightarrow}$ now $\longrightarrow$Water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit.Excuse me, do you speak English?It doesn't rain very much in the summer.What do you usually do on weekends?I always get hungry in the afternoon.
Most people learn to swim when they are children.
Every day the population of the world increases by about 200,000 people.
We use the simple for permanent situations (things that continue for a long time):

My parents live in Vancouver. They have lived there their whole lives.
O Joe isn't lazy. He works hard most of the time.

See Unit 2 for more information.

## I always do and I'm always doing

I always do something = I do it every time:
I always go to work by car. (not l'm always going)
I'm always doing something $=1$ do it too often or more often than normal. For example:
Eric is never satisfied. He's always complaining. (= he complains too much)You're always looking at your phone. Don't you have anything else to do?

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## Exercises

3.1 Are the underlined verbs OK? Correct them where necessary.

1 Water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit.
2 How often are you going to the cinema?
How often do you go
3 Ben tries to find a job, but he hasn't had any luck yet.
4 Melissa is calling her mother every day.
5 The moon goes around the earth in about 27 days.
6 Can you hear those people? What do they talk about?
7 What do you do in your spare time?
8 Sarah is a vegetarian. She doesn't eat meat.
9 I must go now. It gets late.
10 "Come on! It's time to leave." "OK, I come."
11 Mike is never late. He's always starting work on time.


2 They don't get along well. They're always arguing.
3.2 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or simple present.

1 a ... I usually get (I/ usually / get) hungry in the afternoon.
b.I'm getting (I / get) hungry. Let's go and eat something.

2 a" $\quad$ + $+\quad$ + +
(you / listen) to the radio?" "No, you can turn it off." b "
3 a The Nile River (flow) into the Mediterranean.
b The river (flow) very fast today - much faster than usual.
4 a My apartment is a mess. (I / not / do) the housework very often.
b What (you / usually / do) on weekends?
5 a Rachel is in New York right now. ...................... She / stay) at the Park Hotel. b (She / always / stay) there when she's in New York.
3.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or simple present.

1 Why are all these people here? ...What's happening .... (What / happen)?
2 Julia is good at languages.......................................... four languages very well.
3 Are you ready yet?
(Everybody / wait) for you.
4 I've never heard this word. How . (you / pronounce) it?
5 Kate (not / work) this week. She's on vacation.
6 I think my English ... (improve) slowly. It's better than it was.
7 Nicole $\qquad$ (live) in Dallas. She has never lived anywhere else.
8 Can we stop walking soon? ( $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{start}$ ) to get tired.
9 Sam and Natalie are in Madrid right now.
(They / visit) a friend of theirs.
10 "What ... (your father / do)?" "He's an architect."
11 It took me an hour to get to work this morning. Most days
(it / not / take) so long.
12

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I .. (I l learn) to drive. My driving test is next month. My father (teach) me.
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3.4 Finish B's sentences. Use always -ing.

1 A: I lost my keys again.
B: Not again! You're always losing your keys
2 A: The car broke down again.
B: That car is useless. It
3 A: Look! You made the same mistake again.
B: Oh no, not again! ।
4 A: Oh, lleft my phone at home again.
B: Typical!

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## Unit Present Continuous and Simple Present 2 (I am doing and I do)

We use continuous forms (l'm waiting it's raining, etc.) for actions and events that have started but haven't finished. Some verbs (for example, know and like) are not normally used in this way. We don't say "I am knowing" or "they are liking." We say "I know" and "they like."
The following verbs are not normally used in the present continuous:

| like | want | need | prefer |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| know | understand | recognize |  |  |
| believe | suppose | remember | mean |  |
| belong | fit | contain | consist | seem |

$\bigcirc$ I
I'm hungry. I want something to eat. (not I'm wanting)
Do you understand what I mean?
Anna doesn't seem very happy right now.
B think
When think means "believe" or "have an opinion," we do not use the continuous:
I think Mary is Canadian, but I'm not sure. (not I'm thinking)
What do you think of my idea? (= what is your opinion?)
When think means "consider," the continuous is possible:
I'm thinking about what happened. I often think about it.
$\bigcirc$ Nicky is thinking of giving up her job. (= she is considering it)
C see hear smell taste look feel
We normally use the simple present (not the present continuous) with see/hear/smell/taste:
Do you see that man over there? (not are you seeing)
The room smells bad. Let's open a window.
This soup doesn't taste very good.
You can use the simple present or the present continuous to say how somebody looks or feels now:
You look well today. or You're looking well today.
How do you feel now? or How are you feeling now?
but

- I usually feel tired in the morning. (not I'm usually feeling)
am/is/are being
You can say he's being ..., you're being ..., etc., to say how somebody is behaving now:
I can't understand why he's being so selfish. He isn't usually like that.
(being selfish = behaving selfishly now)
- "The path is icy. Don't slip." "Don't worry. I'm being very careful."

Compare:
O He never thinks about other people. He's very selfish.
(= he is selfish generally, not only now)
O I don't like to take risks. I'm a very careful person.
We use am/is/are being to say how a person is behaving (= doing something they can control) now.
It is not usually possible in other situations:
Sam is sick. (not is being sick)
Are you tired? (not are you being tired)

Present Tenses with a Future Meaning $\rightarrow$ Unit 18

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## Exercises

4.1 Put the verb into the correct form, present continuous or simple present.

1 Are you hungry? . Do you want (you / want) something to eat?
2 Alan says he's 90 years old, but nobody.
(believe) him.
3 She told me her name, but (I / not / remember) it now.
4 Don't put the dictionary away.
(I / use) it.
5 Don't put the dictionary away.
(I / need) it.
6 Air (consist) mainly of nitrogen and oxygen.
7 Who is that man? What
(he / want)?
8 Who is that man? Why (he / look) at us?
9 Who is that man? .............. $y$
10 (I / think) of selling my car. Would you be interested in buying it?
11 I can't make up my mind. What
( you / think) I should do?
12 Alex wasn't well earlier, but
(he / seem) OK now.
4.2 Use the words in parentheses to make sentences.

4.3 Are the underlined verbs OK? Correct them where necessary.

1 Michelle is thinking of giving up her job.
2 It's not true. I'm not believing it. OK

3 I'm feeling hungry. Is there anything to eat?
4 I've never eaten that fruit. What is it tasting like?
5 I'm not sure what she does. I think she works in a store.
6 Look over there. What are you seeing?
7 You're very quiet. What are you thinking about?
4.4 Complete the sentences. Use is/are being (continuous) or is/are (simple).

1 I can't understand why he's being so selfish. He isn't usually like that.
2 You'll like Andrea when you meet her. She . very nice.
3 Sarah ... very nice to me right now. I wonder why.
4 They. very happy. They just got married.
5 You're normally very patient, so why
so unreasonable about waiting ten more minutes?
6 Would you like something to eat? . . . hungry?

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## Unit

## 5 Simple Past (I did)

A
Study this example:
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was an Austrian musician and composer. He lived from 1756 to 1791. He started composing at the age of five and wrote more than 600 pieces of music. He was only 35 years old when he died
lived/started/wrote/was/died are all simple past.


B Very often the simple past ends in -ed (regular verbs):
I work in a travel agency now. I worked in a department store before.
They invited us to their party, but we decided not to go.
The police stopped me on my way home last night.
Lauren passed her exam because she studied very hard.
For spelling (stopped, studied, etc.), see Appendix 6.
But many verbs are irregular. The simple past does not end in -ed. For example:

| write $\rightarrow$ wrote | $\bigcirc$ Mozart wrote more than 600 pieces of music. |
| :--- | :--- |
| see $\rightarrow$ saw | $\bigcirc$ We saw Alice in town a few days ago. |
| go $\rightarrow$ went | $\bigcirc$ I went to the movies three times last week. |
| shut $\rightarrow$ shut | $\bigcirc$ It was cold, so I shut the window. |

For a list of irregular verbs, see Appendix 1.
C In questions and negative sentences we use did/didn't + infinitive (enjoy/see/go, etc.):

| $\begin{array}{r} \quad \text { I } \\ \text { she } \\ \text { they } \end{array}$ | enjoyed saw went | did | you she they | enjoy see? go? |  | didn't | enjoy see go |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

I enjoyed the party a lot. Did you enjoy it?How many people did they invite to the wedding?
I didn't buy anything because I didn't have any money.
○ "Did you go out?" "No, I didn't."
Sometimes do is the main verb in the sentence (did ... do / didn't do). For example:
What did you do on the weekend? (not What did you on the weekend?)
I didn't do anything. (not I didn't anything)
D The past of be (am/is/are) is was/were:

| I/he/she/it | was/wasn't |
| :---: | :--- |
| we/you/they | were/weren't | | was | I/he/she/it? |
| :---: | :--- |
| were | we/you/they? |I was annoyed because they were late.Was the weather good when you were on vacation?

They weren't able to come because they were so busy.
I wasn't hungry, so I didn't eat anything.
Did you go out last night, or were you too tired?

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## Exercises

5.1 Read what Lauren says about a typical working day:


Yesterday was a typical working day for Lauren. Write what she did or didn't do yesterday.

| 1 She gotup | at 7:00. | 7 | at 5:00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 She | a big breakfast. | 8 | tired when ...). |
| 3 She |  | 9 | . . . dinner a little later |
| 4 lt | to get to work. | 10 | out last night |
| 5 | - at 8:45. | 11 | - at 11:00 |
| 6 | . lunch. | 12 | well last night |

5.2 Complete the sentences using the following verbs in the correct form:

5.3 You ask James about his trip in the U.S. Write your questions.

1 you: Where didyougo ? JAMES: To the U.S. We went on a trip from San Francisco to Denver.
2 you: How ? By car? james: Yes, we rented a car in San Francisco.
3 you: It's a long way to drive. How long $?$ JAMES: Two weeks, but we stopped at a lot of places on the way.
4 you: Where ? In hotels? JAMES: Yes, small hotels or motels.
5 you: ? JAMES: It was very hot - sometimes too hot.
6 YOU you: ............ the Grand Canyon? JAMES: Of course. It was wonderful.
5.4 Complete the sentences. Put the verb into the correct form, affirmative or negative.

1 It was warm, so I took off my coat. (take)
2 The movie wasn't very good. I didn't enjoy it much. (enjoy)
3 I knew Sarah was busy, so I..._ her. (disturb)
4 We were very tired, so we ......................................... party early. (leave)
5 It was hard carrying the bags. They ..._._._._ really heavy. (be)
6 The bed was very uncomfortable. I...................................................
7 This watch wasn't expensive. It...._ much. (cost)
8 The window was open, and a bird

10 I didn't like the hotel. The room ... $\quad$ very clean. (be)

