

Present Continuous Tense



affirmative sentence



Subject + am / is / are + verb (+ ing)

I am reading a book right now.
They are watching TV.

question



Am / Is / Are + subject + verb (+ ing) ?

Am I reading a book right now?
Are they watching TV?

negative sentence



Subject + am / is / are + not + verb (+ ing)

I am not reading a book right now.
They are not watching TV.

to be	→	am / is / are
I		am
He / She / It		is
You / We / They		are




I am not	=	I'm not
is not	=	isn't
are not	=	aren't

Task 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in Present Continuous.

- The little puppy _____ (sleep) on the sofa.
- She _____ (look) for a new apartment because her lease expires next month.
- The children _____ (play) quietly in the garden.
- The manager _____ (talk) to a client on the phone.
- That group of students _____ (work) on a new project in the classroom.
- My younger sister _____ (learn) how to bake a cake.
- The committee _____ (discuss) the new rules right now.
- Listen! The birds _____ (sing) outside my window
- My best friend and her brother _____ (watch) a documentary together.

10. She _____ (work) on a painting that she plans to exhibit next year.
11. His little cousins _____ (draw) pictures at the table.
12. Why _____ you _____ (wear) a jacket? It's 25 degrees outside!
13. I _____ (not / read) that book anymore — it turned out to be quite boring.
14. The chef _____ (cook) a special dish for the restaurant today.
15. We _____ (consider) adopting a rescue dog from the shelter.

Time Markers

	now	<i>She is cooking dinner now.</i>
	right now	<i>I am talking to you right now.</i>
	at the moment	<i>They are studying at the moment.</i>

Task 2: Complete the sentences in affirmative form with the correct verb (am/is/are + -ing). Then rewrite each sentence in negative and question form.

Example: My cousin ___ (study) at the library right now. → **is studying**
 My cousin **is not studying** at the library right now.
Is my cousin **studying** at the library right now?

1. The baby _____ (sleep) peacefully in the crib.

2. The neighbours _____ (paint) their fence at the moment.













3. My little brother _____ (play) with his toy cars.

4. The students _____ (prepare) for their English test.

5. My parents _____ (watch) a documentary on TV.

6. The children _____ (feed) the ducks in the park.

The (-ing) Spelling Rules

<p><i>general rule</i></p> <p>➤ verb + -ing</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>visit</td><td>visiting</td></tr><tr><td>speak</td><td>speaking</td></tr></table>	visit	visiting	speak	speaking	<p><i>drop "ie"</i></p> <p>➤ verb (-ie) + -ying</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>lie</td><td>lying</td></tr><tr><td>die</td><td>dying</td></tr></table>	lie	lying	die	dying				
visit	visiting												
speak	speaking												
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<p><i>drop "e"</i></p> <p>➤ verb (-e) + -ing</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>write</td><td>writing</td></tr><tr><td>make</td><td>making</td></tr></table>	write	writing	make	making	<p><i>if 1-syllable</i></p> <p>➤ verb (-vowel+consonant) + -ing</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>run</td><td>running</td></tr><tr><td>swim</td><td>swimming</td></tr></table>	run	running	swim	swimming				
write	writing												
make	making												
run	running												
swim	swimming												
<p><i>if the stress on the final syllable</i></p> <p><i>double consonant</i></p> <p>➤ verb (-vowel+consonant) + -ing</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>begin</td><td>beginning</td></tr><tr><td>forget</td><td>forgetting</td></tr></table>	begin	beginning	forget	forgetting	<p><i>double "L" in British English</i></p> <p>➤ verb (-consonant+vowel+L) + -ing</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>travel</td><td> traveling</td></tr><tr><td></td><td> travelling</td></tr><tr><td>model</td><td> modeling</td></tr><tr><td></td><td> modelling</td></tr></table>	travel	 traveling		 travelling	model	 modeling		 modelling
begin	beginning												
forget	forgetting												
travel	 traveling												
	 travelling												
model	 modeling												
	 modelling												

➤ **Task 3: Complete the sentences by writing the correct Present Continuous form of the verb. Pay careful attention to spelling rules when adding -ing**

1. She _____ (run) in the park right now.
2. The baby _____ (cry) loudly.
3. I _____ (drive) to work right now.
4. We _____ (read) an interesting book.

- 5.They _____ (admit) their mistake in front of the teacher.
- 6.She _____ (tie) her shoelaces before going out.
- 7.I _____ (cook) dinner at the moment.
- 8.They _____ (come) home late today.
- 9.Something unusual _____ (happen) outside my window.
- 10.The company _____ (offer) discounts on all products this week.
- 11.My father _____ (fix) the broken chair right now.
- 12.The airline _____ (cancel) the flight due to bad weather.
- 13.I _____ (sit) near the window.

Non-Action Verbs and the Continuous Tense

Non-action verbs (also called stative verbs) **are not** usually used in **continuous** tenses

- ✗ We **are having** two cars now.
- ✓ We **have** two cars now.
- ✗ We **are hearing** music at the moment
- ✓ We **hear** music at the moment.



Task 4: Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb. Use Present Simple for non-action verbs and Present Continuous for action verbs.



Choose carefully! **Some verbs can be stative** in one context **and active** in another.

*Example: She **is looking** out the window. (action)
She **looks** nervous. (non-action / stative)*

- 1.Listen! ____ you _____ (hear) that strange noise?
- 2.The movie _____ (look) interesting — let's watch it.
- 3.I _____ (see) my friends at the park right now.
- 4.He _____ (want) a new bike for his birthday.
- 5.They _____ (play) football at the moment.

6. My parents _____ (know) the answer to this question.
7. I _____ (be) very tired today.
8. Look! She _____ (run) towards us.
9. She _____ (think) about applying for a new job these days.
10. I _____ (think) this idea is excellent.
11. The children _____ (look) for their lost ball in the garden.
12. He _____ (look) very tired after the long trip.
13. They _____ (taste) the soup to check the flavour.
14. The soup _____ (taste) wonderful.
15. From my window, I _____ (see) the lake clearly.
16. The company _____ (consider) several candidates for the position right now.
17. The musician _____ (sound) amazing at the concert tonight.
18. The children _____ (look) out of the window to see the rain.
19. I _____ (understand) what you are saying.
20. At the moment, the scientist _____ (test) a new theory in the lab.

 **Task 5: Read and complete the dialogue with the correct form of the verb in Present Continuous.**

Emma: Hi, Alex! What ___ you _____ (do) here at the library?

Alex: Oh, hi, Emma! I _____ (work) on my history project. What about you?

Emma: I _____ (look) for some books about art. At the same time, I _____ (wait) for my friend, Sarah.

Alex: That sounds nice. My classmates _____ (sit) at the table over there. They _____ (prepare) for tomorrow's exam.

Emma: Wow, everyone _____ (study) so hard today. By the way, why _____ you _____ (wear) a jacket? It's really warm inside.

Alex: *(laughs)* I _____ (feel) a bit cold. The air conditioner _____ (work) too strongly.

Emma: I see! Oh, look! Sarah _____ (come) in now. We _____ (plan) to study together this afternoon.

Alex: Great! I _____ (finish) this part of my project soon, so maybe later we can all go for a coffee.

Answers

Task 1

1. The little puppy **is sleeping** on the sofa. *the little puppy → it → is + verb(-ing)*
2. She **is looking** for a new apartment because her lease expires next month.
3. The children **are playing** quietly in the garden.
4. The manager **is talking** to a client on the phone. *the manager → he/she → is + verb(-ing)*
5. That group of students **is working** on a new project in the classroom.
group → collective noun (treated as a single unit) → is + verb(-ing)
6. My younger sister **is learning** how to bake a cake.
7. The committee **is discussing** the new rules right now.
the committee → singular collective noun → is + verb(-ing)
8. Listen! The birds **are singing** outside my window. *the birds → they → are + verb(-ing)*
9. My best friend and her brother **are watching** a documentary together.
My best friend and her brother → they → are + verb(-ing)
10. She **is working** on a painting that she plans to exhibit next year.
11. His little cousins **are drawing** pictures at the table. *His little cousins → they → are + verb(-ing)*
12. Why **are** you **wearing** a jacket? It's 25 degrees outside!
Question word + am/is/are + subject + verb(-ing)
13. I **am not reading** that book anymore — it turned out to be quite boring.
Negative: Subject + am/is/are + not + verb(-ing)
14. The chef **is cooking** a special dish for the restaurant today.
15. We **are considering** adopting a rescue dog from the shelter.

Task 2

- *Auxiliary verb — am/is/are*
1. The baby **is sleeping** peacefully in the crib.
The baby **isn't sleeping** peacefully in the crib.
negative sentence: Subject + auxiliary verb + not + verb(-ing)
Is the baby **sleeping** peacefully in the crib?
question: Auxiliary verb + subject + verb(-ing)
 2. The neighbours **are painting** their fence at the moment.
The neighbours **aren't painting** their fence at the moment.
Are the neighbours **painting** their fence at the moment?
 3. My little brother **is playing** with his toy cars.
My little brother **isn't playing** with his toy cars.
Is my little brother **playing** with his toy cars?

4. The students **are preparing** for their English test.
The students **aren't preparing** for their English test.

Are the students **preparing** for their English test?

5. My parents **are watching** a documentary on TV.
My parents **aren't watching** a documentary on TV.

Are my parents **watching** a documentary on TV?

6. The children **are feeding** the ducks in the park.
The children **aren't feeding** the ducks in the park.

Are the children **feeding** the ducks in the park?

Task 3

1. She **is running** (run) in the park right now. *(if a 1-syllable verb ends in a vowel + consonant → double the final consonant)*

2. The baby **is crying** (cry) loudly. *(general rule)*

3. I **am driving** (drive) to work right now. *(If a verb ends in '-e' → drop the 'e': drive → driving)*

4. We **are reading** (read) an interesting book. *(general rule)*

(if the stress on the final syllable → double last constant)

5. They **are admitting** (admit) their mistake in front of the teacher.

6. She **is tying** (tie) her shoelaces before going out. *If a verb ends in '-ie' → drop 'ie' and add '-ying'*

7. I **am cooking** (cook) dinner at the moment. *(general rule)*

8. They **are coming** (come) home late today. *(If a verb ends in '-e' → drop the 'e')*

9. Something unusual **is happening** (happen) outside my window. *(stress is on the first syllable → final consonant not doubled)*

10. The company **is offering** (offer) discounts on all products this week.

11. My father **is fixing** (fix) the broken chair right now. *(general rule)*

12. The airline **is canceling** / **is cancelling** (cancel) the flight due to bad weather. *(American English) / (British English)*

13. I **am sitting** (sit) near the window.

(1-syllable verb ends in a vowel + consonant → double the final consonant)

Task 4

1. Listen! **Do** you **hear** that strange noise? *hear — stative verb → Present Simple*

2. The movie **looks** interesting — let's watch it. *look — stative verb → Present Simple*

3. I **am seeing** my friends at the park right now. *see = meet — action → Present Continuous*

4. He **wants** a new bike for his birthday. *want — stative verb → Present Simple (he → verb(-s))*

5. They **are playing** football at the moment. *play — action verb → Present Continuous*

6. My parents **know** the answer to this question. *know – stative verb → Present Simple*
7. I **am** very tired today. *be – stative verb → Present Simple*
8. Look! She **is running** towards us. *run – action verb → Present Continuous*
9. She **is thinking** about applying for a new job these days. *think = consider → action → Present Continuous* ↩
10. I **think** this idea is excellent. *think (believe/opinion) – stative verb → Present Simple*
11. The children **are looking for** their lost ball in the garden. *look for – action → Present Continuous* ↩
12. He **looks** very tired after the long trip. *look – stative verb → Present Simple*
13. They **are tasting** the soup to check the flavour. *taste – action (trying the flavour)*
14. The soup **tastes** wonderful. *taste – perception (has a flavour) – stative → Present Simple*
15. From my window, I **see** the lake clearly. *see – stative verb → Present Simple*
16. The company **is considering** several candidates for the position right now. *consider → action → Present Continuous* ↩
17. The musician **sounds** amazing at the concert tonight. *sound – stative verb → Present Simple (the musician → he/she → verb(-s))* ↩
18. The children **are looking out** of the window to see the rain. *look out → action → Present Continuous* ↩
19. I **understand** what you are saying. *understand – stative verb → Present Simple*
20. At the moment, the scientist **is testing** a new theory in the lab. *test → action → Present Continuous* ↩

Task 5

Emma: Hi, Alex! What **are** you **doing** here at the library?

Alex: Oh, hi, Emma! I **am working** on my history project. What about you?

Emma: I **am looking** for some books about art. At the same time, I **am waiting** for my friend, Sarah.

Alex: That sounds nice. My classmates **are sitting** at the table over there. They **are preparing** for tomorrow's exam.

Emma: Wow, everyone **is studying** so hard today. By the way, why **are** you **wearing** a jacket? It's really warm inside.

Alex: (laughs) I **feel** a bit cold. The air conditioner **is working** too strongly.

Emma: I see! Oh, look! Sarah **is coming** in now. We **are planning** to study together this afternoon.

Alex: Great! I **am finishing** this part of my project soon, so maybe later we can all go for a coffee.