

English Grammar For Second Year Students

English Dep.
College of Basic Education
University of Diyala
First Course
Based on
English Grammar in Use
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Presented

by

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Unit 1

Present continuous (I am doing)

The form of the present continuous tense is :

Be + the -ing form of the verb (present participle)

Be (Am/is/are) + verb + ing

Study this example situation

Sarah is in her car.

She is on her way to work.

She **is driving** to work.

This means: she **is driving** *now*, at the time of speaking.

The action is not finished.



I am doing something = I'm in the middle of doing it; I've started doing it and I haven't finished:

- Please don't make so much noise. **I'm trying** to work. (*not* I try)
- 'Where's Mark?' 'He's **having** a shower.' (*not* He has a shower)
- Let's go out now. It **isn't raining** any more. (*not* It doesn't rain)
- (*at a party*) Hi, Jane. **Are you enjoying** the party? (*not* Do you enjoy)
- What's all that noise? What's **going** on? (= 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:



I'm **reading** a really good book at the moment.
It's about a man who ...

Steve is not reading the book at the time of speaking.
He means that he has started it, but has not finished it yet.
He is in the middle of reading it.

Forms of auxiliary *Be* used in present continuous tense

Subject	Aux (be)	Main verb (present participle)
I	am (=I'm)	driving
he/she/it	is (=he's etc.)	working
we/you/they	are (=we're etc.)	doing

You can use the present continuous with **today / this week / this year** etc. (periods around now):

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 changes happening around now, especially with these verbs:

get change become increase rise fall grow improve begin start

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 **beginning** to enjoy it now. (*not* I begin)

Uses

I am doing something= **I'm in the middle of doing it**; I've started doing it and I haven't finished:

Examples :

Please don't make so much noise. **I'm trying** to work. (*not I try*)

'Where's Mark?' 'He **is having** a shower.' (*not He has a shower*)

Let's go out now. It **isn't raining** any more. (*not It doesn't rain*)

(*at a party*) Hi, Jane. **Are you enjoying** the party? (*not Do you enjoy*)

What's all that noise? What **is going** on? (=What **is 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: **I'm reading** a really good book **at the moment.** It's about a man who ...

Steve is not reading the book at the time of speaking.

He means that **he has started it, but has not finished it yet.**

He is in the middle of reading it .

Examples:

1. Kate wants to work in Italy, so **she is learning** Italian.

(but perhaps she isn't learning Italian at the time of speaking)

2. Some friends of mine **are building** their own house.

They hope to finish it next summer.

The present continuous is used when we talk about **changes happening around now**, especially with these verbs:

get

increase

grow

rise

improve

change

become

fall

begin / start

Examples

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 beginning** to enjoy it now.

(not I begin)

Affirmative , Negative , Interrogative

They are learning English. Affirmative / positive

They are not learning English. Negative

Interrogative

Are they learning English ? Yes / No question

What are they learning? Wh- question

Adverbs used with present continuous

Adverbs that are used with the **present continuous tense** , in addition to **now** ,

are:

today / this week / this year etc. (periods around now):

Examples

1. A: **You're working hard today.**

(not You work hard today)

B: Yes, I have a lot to do.

2. The company I work for **isn't**

doing so well **this year**



Exercises



1.1 The sentences on the right follow those on the left. Which sentence goes with which?

- 1 Please don't make so much noise.
- 2 I need to eat something soon.
- 3 I don't have anywhere to live right now.
- 4 We need to leave soon.
- 5 They don't need their car any more.
- 6 Things are not so good at work.
- 7 It isn't true what they said.
- 8 We're going to get wet.

- a It's getting late.
- b They're lying.
- c It's starting to rain.
- d They're trying to sell it.
- e I'm getting hungry.
- f ~~I'm trying to work.~~
- g I'm looking for an apartment.
- h The company is losing money.

- 1 f
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8



1.2 Complete the conversations.

1 A: I saw Brian a few days ago.

B: Oh, did you? What's he doing these days? (what / he / do)

A: He's at university.

B: What is he studying ? (what / he / study)

A: Psychology.

B: Is he enjoying it? (he / enjoy)

A: Yes, he says it's a very good course.

2 A: Hi, Nicola. How is your new job going ? (your new job / go)

B: Not bad. It wasn't so good at first, but it is getting better now.
(it / get)

A: What about Daniel? Is he OK?

B: Yes, but he is not enjoying his work right now. (he / not / enjoy)

He's been in the same job for a long time and he is beginning to get bored
with it. (he / begin)



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Put the verb into the correct form, positive (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) any more.
- 3 You can turn off the radio. I am not listening (I / listen) to it.
- 4 Kate phoned me last night. She's on holiday in France. She is having (she / have) a great time and doesn't want to come back.
- 5 I want to lose weight, so this week I am not eating (I / eat) lunch.
- 6 Andrew has just started evening classes. He is learning (he / learn) Japanese.
- 7 Paul and Sally have had an argument. They are not speaking (they / speak) to each other.
- 8 I am getting (I / get) tired. I need a rest.
- 9 Tim is not working (work) today. He's taken the day off.
- 10 I am looking (I / look) for Sophie. Do you know where she is?

1.4 Complete the sentences using the following verbs:

start get ~~increase~~ change rise

- 1 The population of the world *is increasing* very fast.
- 2 The world Things never stay the same.
- 3 The situation is already bad and it worse.
- 4 The cost of living Every year things are more expensive.
- 5 The weather to improve. The rain has stopped, and the wind isn't as strong.

Thank You