

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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Unit 3

Present continuous and present simple 1 (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**. Can you turn it off?
- 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:

- 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.

Present simple (I do)

We use the simple for things in general or things that happen repeatedly.

I do

past now future

- Water **boils** at 100 degrees Celsius.
- Excuse me, **do you speak** English?
- It **doesn't rain** very much in summer.
- What **do you usually do** at 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:

- My parents **live** in London. They have lived there all their lives.
- Joe isn't lazy. He **works** hard most of the time.

**Present continuous
(I am doing)**

The present continuous is used for temporary situations:

- 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.**

**Present simple
(I do)**

We use the present simple is used for permanent situations:

- My parents live in London. They have lived there all their lives.
- Joe isn't lazy. He works hard most of the time.

The uses of always

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 I'm always going**)

'**I'm always doing something**' has a different meaning. For example:

I've lost my phone again. **I'm always losing** things.

I'm always losing things = I lose things very often, perhaps too often, or more often than normal.

More examples:

- **You're always playing** computer games. You should do something more active. (=You play computer games too often)
- Tim is never satisfied. **He's always complaining**. (=He complains too much)

Exercises



3.1 Are the underlined verbs right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

- 1 Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.
- 2 The water boils. Can you turn it off?
- 3 Look! That man tries to open the door of your car.
- 4 Can you hear those people? What do they talk about?
- 5 The moon goes round the earth in about 27 days.
- 6 I must go now. It gets late.
- 7 I usually go to work by car.
- 8 'Hurry up! It's time to leave.' 'OK, I come.'
- 9 I hear you've got a new job. How do you get on?
- 10 Paul is never late. He's always getting to work on time.
- 11 They don't get on well. They're always arguing.

OK

is boiling

Is trying

Are thy taking

Ok.

It is getting

Ok.

I am coming

Are you getting

He alawys gets

Ok.

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

- 1 Let's go out. It isn't raining (it / not / rain) now.
- 2 Julia is very good at languages. She speaks (she / speak) four languages very well.
- 3 Hurry up! **Everybody is waiting** (everybody / wait) for you.
- 4 ' **Are you listening** (you / listen) to the radio?' 'No, you can turn it off.'
- 5 ' **Do you listen** (you / listen) to the radio every day?' 'No, just occasionally.'
- 6 The River Nile **flows** (flow) into the Mediterranean.
- 7 The river **is flowing** (flow) very fast today – much faster than usual.
- 8 **We usually grow** (we / usually / grow) vegetables in our garden, but this year
We are not growing (we / not / grow) any.
- 9 a: How's your English?
b: Not bad. I think **It is improving** (it / improve) slowly.
- 10 Rachel is in New York right now. **She is staying** (she / stay) at the Park Hotel.
She always stays (she / always / stay) there when she's in New York.
- 11 Can we stop walking soon? **I am starting** (I / start) to feel tired.
- 12 a: Can you drive?
b: **I am learning** (I / learn). My father **is teaching** (teach) me.
- 13 Normally **I finish** (I / finish) work at five, but this week
I am working (I / work) until six to earn a little more money.
- 14 My parents **live** (live) in Manchester. They were born there and have never lived anywhere else. Where **Do your parents live** (your parents / live)?
- 15 Sonia **is looking** (look) for a place to live. **Is staying** (she / stay) with her sister until she finds somewhere.
- 16 a: What **Does your brother do** (your brother / do)?
b: He's an architect, but **He is not working** (he / not / work) at the moment.
- 17 (at a party) **I usually enjoy** (I / usually enjoy) parties, but
I am not enjoying (I / not / enjoy) this one very much.





3.3 Finish B's sentences. Use **always -ing**.

1 A: I've lost my phone again.

B: Not again! *You're always losing your phone*

2 A: The car has broken down again.

B: That car is useless. It *is always breaking down*

3 A: Look! You've made the same mistake again.

B: Oh no, not again! I *am always making the same mistake*

4 A: Oh, I've forgotten my glasses again.

B: Typical! *You are always forgetting your glasses*

Thank You