

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

I. Functions:

Present Continuous can be used to:

- Describe an **ON-GOING** action at the current time (**now, right now, at the moment, at present, at the time being, ...**):
*My father **is watering** the garden at the moment.*
*My cats **are chasing** a mouse around the house.*
- Describe a **TEMPORARY** action/ event/ trend that may **CHANGE** in the future:
*Dave **is studying** economics at university.*
*Jacob **is working** on his project **this week**.*
*Young people **are going** crazy about local brands **nowadays**.*
- Talk about something happening that is **UNUSUAL** (**today, this morning, this week, this month, this year, ...**):
*He **drinks** coffee every morning but **this morning** he **is having** tea.*
*We **ride** our bike to school every day but **today** we **are taking** the bus.*
- Express a **COMPLAINT** (**be + always + V-ing**)
*That boy **is always talking** in class.*
*My neighbor **is always singing** karaoke so loudly at night.*
- Describe a **PLAN** in the future (**= be going to**):
*The government **is building** a bridge over this river **soon**.*
*We **are going** on a holiday **next summer**.*

We **RARELY** use Present Continuous with:

- Verbs of thinking and feeling:** believe, dislike, hate, know, like, love, prefer, realize, recognize, remember, suppose, think (=believe), understand, want, wish
- Verbs of the senses:** appear (=seem), feel, look, smell, sound, taste
- Others:** agree, belong, disagree, need, owe, own, possess

II. Form:

+ Affirmative:

I + am + V_{-ing}
He/She/It + is + V_{-ing}
You/We/They + are + V_{-ing}

+ Negative:

I + am not + V_{-ing}
He/She/It + is not + V_{-ing}
You/We/They + are not + V_{-ing}

Shortened form: is not = isn't; are not = aren't

+ Question:

Am + I + V_{-ing}
Is + he/she/it + V_{-ing}
Are + you/we/they + V_{-ing}