

# Lesson III

## Unit 3: Present Continuous

# Present Continuous

- We use the continuous for things happening at or around the time of speaking.
- **ing-forms** have many different uses in the grammar of English.
- In many grammar books they are called by different names when they do different jobs.
- Some of those names are *present participle*, *gerund*, *verbal*, *verbal noun*, *verbal adjective*.

# Statements Patterns

Subject	Verb Phrase		Complement	
Noun/Pronoun	Aux Be (Not)	ing	Object	Place
<i>Many students</i>	<i>are</i>	<i>working</i>		<i>at the tables.</i>
<i>A pretty girl</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>copying</i>	<i>something</i>	<i>from an encyclopedia.</i>
<i>The cashier</i>	<i>isn't</i>	<i>eating.</i>		
<i>The fat boy</i>	<i>isn't</i>	<i>picking out</i>	<i>a salad.</i>	
<i>I</i>	<i>am</i>	<i>listening.</i>		
<i>I</i>	<i>am</i>	<i>doing</i>	<i>my homework.</i>	

# Compare

## 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.

## 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.

# Yes/No Question and Short Answers Pattern

- *Is the tall boy asking a question?*

*Yes, he is. No, he isn't.*

- *Aren't Jack and Bill studying in the library?*

*Yes, they are. No, they aren't.*

- *Are you listening to me?*

*Yes, I am. No, I'm not.*

- *Is she doing her homework?*

*Yes, she is. No, she isn't.*

# Information Question patterns

- The teacher is teaching us English.

*Who is teaching you English?*

- Jack and Betty aren't studying in the library.

*Who isn't studying in the library?*

- The tornado is destroying the houses.

*What is destroying the houses?*

# Information Question patterns

**QW + Be (NOT) + SUB. + V. ing-Form**

- *The boy is talking to the librarian.* (object)

*Who/Whom is the boy talking to?*

- *He is typing his paper.* (verb)

*What is he doing?*

- *They are going home.* (place)

*Where are they going?*

# Non-action verbs

These are verbs which express **mental states or conditions** and the **verbs of perception**.

Mental State	Condition	Perception
Believe	Belong	Feel
Think	Own	Smell
Know	Have	Taste
Seem	Owe	Hear
Understand	Cost	See
Like	Mean	
Love	Resemble	
Need		
Prefer		
Want		
Wish		
Remember		
Forget		

like	want	need	prefer	
know	realise	understand	recognise	
believe	suppose	remember	mean	
belong	fit	contain	consist	seem



# 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:**
- *Nicky is thinking of giving up her job.*

# Perception Verbs

- **We normally use the present simple (not continuous) with see/hear/smell/taste:**
- *Do you see that man over there?* (not are you seeing)
- **You can use the present simple or continuous to say how somebody looks or feels now:**
- *You look well today. /You're looking well today.*
- *How do you feel now? /How are you feeling now?*

# 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 = **I do it too often or more often than normal.**
- *I've lost my keys again. I'm always losing them.*
- *You're always looking at your phone.*

# The End of Lesson III

- p. 44 ex. b. and p. 49 ex. a. (rapid)
- p. 50 ex. c. (rapid)
- 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 on page 3 (G in use)
- 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 on page 7 (G in use)
- 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 on page 9 (G in use)