

The Present Continuous and Past Continuous tenses.

Learning objective: By the end of this course, learners will:

1. Understand the structure and usage of the Present Continuous and Past Continuous tenses.
2. Identify situations where these tenses are used in daily conversations.
3. Practice forming affirmative, negative, and question sentences.
4. Gain confidence in using these tenses in spoken and written communication.

A) The present continuous tense

*- The present continuous tense, also known as the present progressive tense, is used to describe actions that are happening right now or ongoing activities. It can also express future plans.

Formula:

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

** - Examples

1)- Affirmative:

- I am studying.
- She is reading a book.
- They are playing football.

2) - Negative:

- I am not studying.
- He is not working today.
- We are not going to the party.

3)- Interrogative:

- Am I studying?
- Is she coming?
- Are they watching a movie?

*** - Uses

a)- Ongoing Actions: Describes actions happening at the moment.

Example: She is talking on the phone.

b)- Temporary Situations: Actions that are not permanent.

Example: I am staying with my friend this week.

c) - Future Plans: Scheduled events or arrangements.

Example: We are meeting them tomorrow.

B) Past Continuous Tense

* - The past continuous tense is used to describe actions that were ongoing in the past.

Structure:

Subject + was/were + verb (-ing)

**)Examples:

She was reading.

They were playing.

***) Uses:

- Actions in progress at a specific time in the past:

At 7 PM, he was cooking dinner.

- Interrupted actions:

I was watching TV when the phone rang.

- Parallel actions:

While she was studying, he was cleaning.

-- Background information in a story:

The wind was howling, and the rain was pouring.
