

Grammar Tense Review

Dr. Mouna Boulberhane

Mila University Centre Abdelhafid Boussouf

Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages

Department of English

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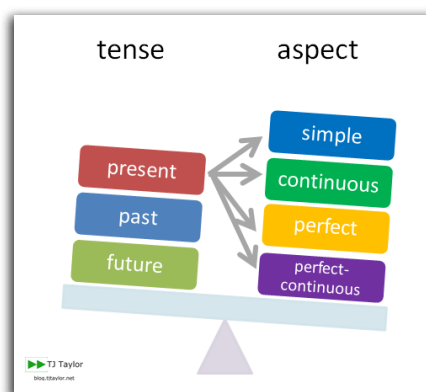


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Objectifs



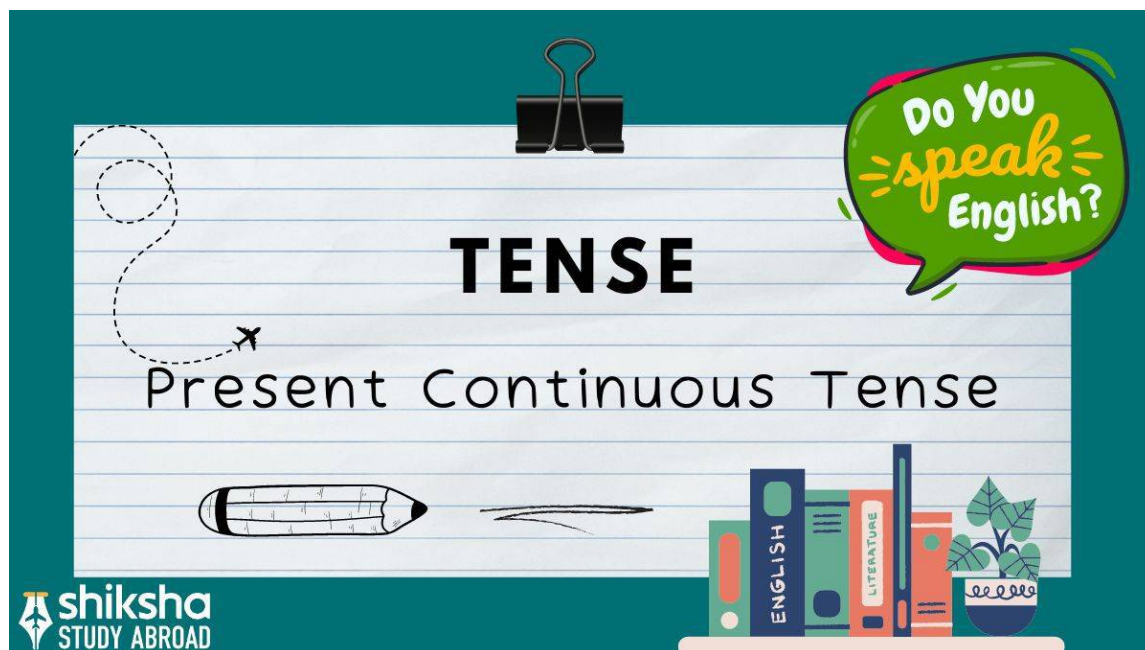
At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Recall and describe the forms and uses of the main English tenses.
- Understand the uses and differences between various tenses.
- Apply the correct tense in both spoken and written contexts.
- Analyze and evaluate the use of tenses in texts for clarity and accuracy.
- Evaluate the accuracy and appropriateness of tense use in context.
- Create original, meaningful texts using a range of correct tenses

The Present Continuous Tense



In this lesson, we'll look at the **present continuous tense**—a way to talk about actions happening right now or in the near future. It helps us describe **what's going on around us in the moment**.



The Present Continuous Tense

1. Specific Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Recall the structure and rules of the Present Continuous tense (affirmative, negative, and interrogative forms).
- Explain the uses of the Present Continuous tense, such as actions happening right now or around the present time.
- Apply the Present Continuous tense accurately in spoken and written contexts to describe ongoing actions.
- Analyze sentences to identify the correct use of the Present Continuous tense and distinguish it from the Present Simple.
- Evaluate different situations to decide whether to use the Present Continuous or other tenses, based on context.
- Create sentences, dialogues, or short paragraphs using the Present Continuous to describe actions in progress.



Warm up

- (Ali / ride a bike) → _____
- (My friends / swim in the pool) → _____
- (I / eat breakfast) → _____
- (She / draw a picture) → _____
- (We / clean the classroom) → _____

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFdhrR6Dpco>



Définition

The **Present Continuous Tense** is used to describe actions that are happening **right now**, **temporary situations**, or **planned future events**.

2. Form

The present continuous tense is formed with '**am / is / are**' followed the **present participle** of the verb '**v**+ing**'.

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative	Negative interrogative
I am working	I am not working	am I working?	aren't I working?
You are working	you are not working	are you working?	aren't you working?
he/she/it is working	he/she/ is not working	is she/he/it working?	isn't he/she/it working?
We are working	we are not working	are we working?	aren't we working?
They are working	they are not working	are they working?	aren't they working?

Wh Questions: Why's he working? Where're you working?

The spelling of the present participle

1. When a verb ends in a single **e**, this **e** is dropped before "**ing**":

- argue, arguing
- hate, hating
- love, loving

Except after **age**, **dye** and **singe**:

Ageing, dyeing, singeing.

And verbs ending in **ee**:

- Agree, agreeing
- see, seeing

2. When a verb of **one** syllable has **one** vowel and ends in a **single** consonant, this consonant is **doubled** before **ing**:

- hit, hitting
- run, running
- stop, stopping

For verbs of **two or more syllables** whose last syllable contains only **one** vowel and ends in a **single** consonant, we **double** this consonant if the stress falls on the **last** syllable:

- admit, admitting
- begin, beginning
- prefer, preferring

Except for: budget, **budgeting** \ entre, **entering** (stress not on the last syllable).

A final **l** after a **single** vowel is, however, always **doubled**:

- signal, signaling
- travel, travelling

Except in **American** English.

3. “**ing**” can be added to a verb ending in “**y**” without affecting the spelling of the verb:

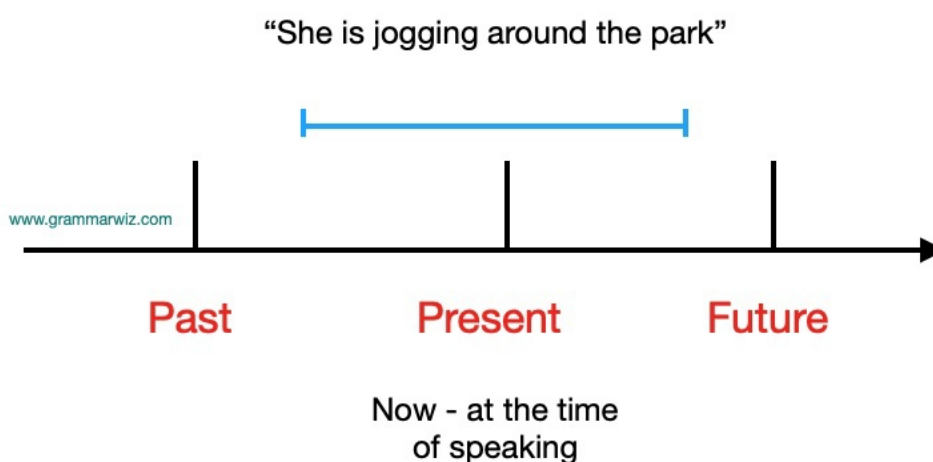
- carry, carrying
- enjoy, enjoying
- hurry, hurrying

3. Use

Unlike the Present Simple, which expresses general truths and habits, the Present Continuous focuses on **ongoing** or **developing actions**. We use the Present Continuous to talk about:

3.1. Activities at the moment of speaking

These things usually last for quite a short time and they are not finished when we are talking about them.



The Use of the Present Continuous (the moment of speaking)

? *Exemple*

- I **am just leaving** work. I will be home in an hour.

3.2. Future Meaning: Plans or Arrangements

The Present Continuous is used definite future arrangements (with a future time word). In this case we have already made a plan and we are pretty sure that the event will happen in the future.

? *Exemple*

- Mary **is going** to a new school next term.
- I'm **meeting** my father tomorrow.

Q *Remarque*

Both the Simple Present and Present Continuous can be used to talk about the **future**, but they have different meanings and uses.

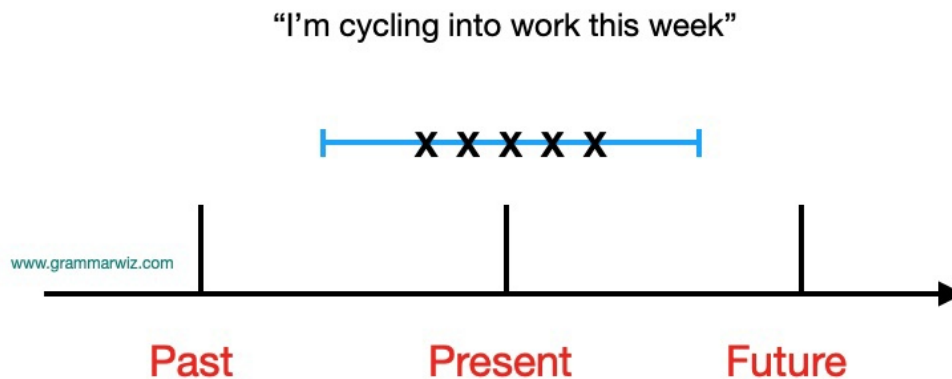
- The **Simple Present** is used for official, **fixed events** that follow a timetable or schedule.

- The **Present Continuous** is used for **personal plans** or arrangements that have already been **decided** and often involve other people.

3.3. For Actions Happening Around this Time

The Present Continuous Tense is not only used for actions happening right now but also for actions that are occurring around this period, even if they are not happening at this exact moment. In other words, it is also used when the action is not necessarily happening at the moment but occurring about this time.

An example of this is shown in the timeline below - the cycling to work is temporary (for one week) but is repeated each day over 5 days.



The Present Continuous (not necessarily occurring at the time of speaking)

? *Example*

- I’m quite busy these days. I’m **working** with my uncle on a new project.

3.4. To express a Frequently Occurring Action which Annoys the Speaker

The Present Continuous Tense can be used to talk about **repeated** actions, especially when they are **annoying**, **surprising**, or **unusual** to the speaker.

To express irritation, annoyance, or surprise about a repeated action, the Present Continuous is mostly used with **adverbs of frequency**, such as:

- **Always**
- **Constantly**
- **Continually**
- **Forever**

? *Example*

- She **is always leaving** the front door open.
- That student **is always talking** during lecture.

The Present Continuous is also used to emphasize that something is done so often that it is the characteristic of a person or thing (**habits that are not regular, but that happen very often**).

? *Example*

- **A:** I think I’ll stay here after all. **-B:** You **are constantly changing** your mind.

3.5. For a Temporary Situation, Even if the Action isn't Happening at this Moment

? *Exemple*

- He **is paying** extra premiums on his house insurance this month.
- Banks **are lending** more money (these days) to encourage businesses.
(implies that this is not, or may not be, permanent).

The Present Continuous tense is essential for describing actions happening at the moment of speaking, temporary situations, planned future events, and repeated actions that cause irritation.

4. Exercice : Exercise: Choose the correct answer

[solution n°1 p. 17]

Mr. Knight _____ some packages right now. He seems quite busy.

- ☐ aren't delivering
- ☐ isn't delivering
- ☐ are delivering
- ☐ is delivering

5. Exercice : Choose the correct answer

[solution n°2 p. 17]

Our neighbour _____ a flowerbed in his garden at the moment.

- ☐ are weeding
- ☐ aren't weeding
- ☐ is weeding
- ☐ isn't weeding

6. Exercice : Choose the correct answer

[solution n°3 p. 17]

I _____ hiking with my friends because I've got a broken leg.

- ☐ not going
- ☐ are not going
- ☐ is not going
- ☐ am not going

7. Exercise : Choose the correct answer

[solution n°4 p. 18]

Roth: Why ____ Fred sleeping? Bill: Because mosquitoes ____ disturbing him.

- ☐ is / aren't
- ☐ is / are
- ☐ isn't / aren't
- ☐ isn't / are

8. Exercise : Choose the correct answer

[solution n°5 p. 18]

The kids _____ playing at the monkey bars. They are _____ now.

- ☐ isn't / swinging
- ☐ isn't / sliding
- ☐ aren't / swinging
- ☐ aren't / sliding

9. Exercise : Choose the correct answer

[solution n°6 p. 18]

Jake: _____ is Steven's little brother _____? Maya: To school.

- ☐ Where / going
- ☐ What / doing
- ☐ Who / coming
- ☐ Which / running

10. Exercise : Interactive Drag-and-Drop Exercise – Present Continuous

[solution n°7 p. 18]

Drag the words into the correct order to form a grammatically correct sentence using the Present Continuous tense.

1. is
2. preparing
3. the office
4. being
5. although
6. noisy
7. is
8. the report
9. She

Réponse :

11. Exercise : Interactive Drag-and-Drop Exercise – Present Continuous

[solution n°8 p. 18]

Drag the words into the correct order to form a grammatically correct sentence using the Present Continuous tense.

1. instructions
2. is
3. they
4. while
5. He
6. are
7. the team
8. giving
9. him
10. ignoring

Réponse :

Activity: PRESENT SIMPLE OR PRESENT CONTINUOUS



Objectifs

- Analyzing and differentiate between the Present Simple and Present Continuous tenses in various contexts.
- Applying the correct verb forms to improve tense accuracy in both written and spoken contexts.
- Creating well-formed sentences using the appropriate tense and structure.
- Recognizing and interpret time expressions commonly used with present tenses.

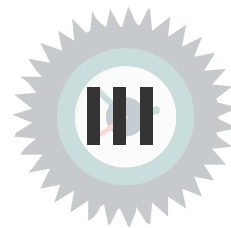
Exercise 1

[solution n°9 p. 19]

Put the verbs into the correct form, the **present simple** or the **present continuous**:

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

Activity: Differentiating and Correctly Using the Present Simple and the Present Continuous



Objectifs

By the end of this activity, the learner will be able to:

- Explain the rules and usage of the Present Simple and Present Continuous tenses.
- Apply these tenses correctly in both written and spoken contexts.
- Analyze examples to identify and correct common mistakes in tense usage.

In this activity, learners will explore the Present Simple and Present Continuous tenses, two fundamental aspects of English grammar. Understanding the difference between these tenses is crucial for effective communication in both spoken and written English.

1. Mastering Present Simple and Present Continuous in Complex Conversations



Définition

In this activity, you will practice using the Present Simple and Present Continuous in real-life discussions. The Present Simple is used for facts, routines, and general truths, while the Present Continuous describes temporary actions, ongoing changes, and future arrangements.

Reflection

This activity will help you speak fluently and confidently by using both tenses correctly in debates and conversations. You will learn to:

1. Express facts and habits clearly.
2. Describe ongoing situations and trends naturally.
3. Use tone and context to emphasize your opinion.



Exemple

Imagine you are debating about work-life balance:



You: "People generally believe that working long hours leads to success, but I disagree." (Present Simple – stating a general belief)



Your friend: "I see your point, but nowadays, companies are shifting towards a healthier work-life balance." (Present Continuous – describing an evolving trend)



You: "That may be true, but my company still expects employees to be available 24/7." (Present Simple – a permanent situation)



Your friend: "Well, at least in my field, we are focusing more on productivity rather than just long hours." (Present Continuous – describing a temporary change)

Be Careful !**Attention**

- "I work on weekends." (Permanent) ≠ "I am working this weekend." (Temporary)
- "She always arrives late." (A fact) ≠ "She is always arriving late!" (Expressing frustration)

**Méthode**

1. Choose a debate topic (e.g., remote work, social media, technology in education).
2. Prepare arguments using both Present Simple (facts, habits) and Present Continuous (current trends, evolving situations).
3. Discuss with a partner: One person argues for, and the other argues against.
4. Switch roles and try to defend the opposite opinion.
5. Reflect on your use of tenses: Did you use them correctly?

**Texte légal**

This activity helps improving your speaking skills, understand grammar in real-life use, and express yourself more naturally in English.

In this activity, you have practiced distinguishing between the Present Simple and Present Continuous in real-life discussions. By participating in interactive role-play, you enhanced your ability to express facts, habits, ongoing actions, and evolving trends effectively.

Questions de synthèse



Reflect on what you have learned by answering the following:

1. What are the key differences between the Present Simple and the Present Continuous? Provide examples.
2. How can mastering these tenses improve your ability to communicate in real-life conversations?
3. Can you think of a situation outside the classroom where you would need to use both tenses accurately? Explain why.

💬 Your responses should demonstrate an understanding of the functions of each tense and their practical use in spoken English.

Solutions des exercices



Solution n°1

[exercice p. 9]

Mr. Knight _____ some packages right now. He seems quite busy.

- ☐ aren't delivering
- ☐ isn't delivering
- ☐ are delivering
- ☒ is delivering

Solution n°2

[exercice p. 9]

Our neighbour _____ a flowerbed in his garden at the moment.

- ☐ are weeding
- ☐ aren't weeding
- ☒ is weeding
- ☐ isn't weeding

Solution n°3

[exercice p. 9]

I _____ hiking with my friends because I've got a broken leg.

- ☐ not going
- ☐ are not going
- ☐ is not going
- ☒ am not going

Solution n°4

[exercice p. 10]

Roth: Why ____ Fred sleeping? Bill: Because mosquitoes ____ disturbing him.

- ☐ is / aren't
- ☐ is / are
- ☐ isn't / aren't
- ☒ isn't / are

Solution n°5

[exercice p. 10]

The kids _____ playing at the monkey bars. They are _____ now.

- ☐ isn't / swinging
- ☐ isn't / sliding
- ☒ aren't / swinging
- ☐ aren't / sliding

Solution n°6

[exercice p. 10]

Jake: _____ is Steven's little brother _____? Maya: To school.

- ☒ Where / going
- ☐ What / doing
- ☐ Who / coming
- ☐ Which / running

Solution n°7

[exercice p. 10]

Drag the words into the correct order to form a grammatically correct sentence using the Present Continuous tense.

She is preparing the report although the office is being noisy

Solution n°8

[exercice p. 11]

Drag the words into the correct order to form a grammatically correct sentence using the Present Continuous tense.

He is giving the team instructions while they are ignoring him

Solution n°9

Put the verbs into the correct form, the **present simple** or the **present continuous**:

1. Let's go out. It **isn't raining** (not\ rain) now.
2. Julia is very good at languages. She **speaks** (speak) four languages very well.
3. Hurry up! Everybody **is waiting** (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.
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8. We usually **grow** (grow) vegetables in our garden, but this year we **aren't growing** (not grow) any.
9. **A:** How is your English?
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11. Can we stop walking soon? I **am starting** (start) to feel tired.
12. **A:** Can you drive?
B: I am learning (learn). My father **is teaching** (teach) me.
13. Normally I **finish** (finish) work at five, but this week I **am working** (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. She **is staying** (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 **isn't working** (not / work) at the moment.
17. I usually **enjoy** (enjoy) parties, but I **am not enjoying** (not / enjoy) this one very much.

Glossaire



Tenses

forms of verbs that show the time of an action (e.g., present, past, future).

Abréviations



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Webographie



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