

English A2 · Present continuous

Elementary English for Chinese speakers; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Engine plus wheels

The present continuous is be plus verb-ing: be is the engine, -ing is the wheels, and the sentence needs both.

The spelling dances before -ing

Verb ending	The dance	Example
most verbs	just add -ing	work → working
silent -e	drop the e	make → making, write → writing
short vowel + consonant	double the consonant	run → running, sit → sitting
-ie	ie → y	lie → lying

Use the evidence

Short verbs panic and double; long calm words like eat and sleep just add -ing.

Your turn: the panicking verb

Your turn

They ____ (run) in the park now.

- ☐ A. is runing
- ☐ B. are runing
- ☐ C. are running
- ☐ D. are run

Now vs always

present simple — always

I walk to school. — every day

She works in a bank. — her job

It rains a lot here. — the climate

present continuous — now

I am walking to school. — look outside

She is working late tonight. — today only

It is raining. — wet shoes now

Your turn: which tense

Your turn

It ____ a lot in winter here.

- ☐ A. is raining
- ☐ B. rains
- ☐ C. rain
- ☐ D. raining

The secret second job

Arranged plans

I am meeting Li tomorrow.

We are having a test on Monday.

Your turn: arrangement or forecast

Your turn

Which is a correct arrangement in the present continuous?

- A. It is raining tomorrow, I think.
- B. I am meeting Li tomorrow at five.
- C. I am liking the plan tomorrow.
- D. The sun is rising at six tomorrow.

The missing engine

- 1 **The instinct** has no word for am.
- 2 **The error** I eating. — a car with no engine.
- 3 **The fix** I am eating. — engine plus wheels.

Decision

Statives still refuse to move: I need help now, never I am needing.

Say it aloud

Narrate now: I am sitting in class. The teacher is talking.



Add hope: My pen is moving. Miracles happen.



Look outside: The sun is shining; the maths homework is waiting.



Answer truly: What are you doing right now? — I am learning English.

Check yourself

- Look! It is raining. — right now takes the continuous.
- She isn't listening at the moment. — engine, wall, wheels.
- I am meeting Li tomorrow at five. — an arrangement.
- He wants coffee. — statives don't move, even now.