

5 Present Continuous (1)

1 We form the Present Continuous like this:

be + -ing form
I am eating.

Here are the forms of the Present Continuous:

POSITIVE

FULL FORM

I am eating.
You are eating.
He/She/It is eating.
We are eating.
You are eating.
They are eating.

SHORT FORM

I'm eating.
You're eating.
He's eating.
We're eating.
You're eating.
They're eating.

NEGATIVE

FULL FORM

I am not eating.
You are not eating.
He/She/It is not eating.
We are not eating.
You are not eating.
They are not eating.

SHORT FORM

I'm not eating.
You aren't eating.
He isn't eating.
We aren't eating.
You aren't eating.
They aren't eating.

2 To make the -ing form, we add -ing to the verb:

listen → listening play → playing
work → working read → reading

3 But notice these irregular spellings:

win → winning get → getting
shop → shopping sit → sitting
swim → swimming travel → travelling
dance → dancing write → writing
shine → shining

(For more details on the spelling of the -ing form, see Appendix 2, page 243.)

4 We use the Present Continuous:

▶ to talk about actions and situations in progress now:



▶ to talk about actions and situations in progress around now, but not exactly at the moment we speak:



Practice

A Look at these pictures.



Decide what is happening (✓) and what isn't happening (X) in each picture, and then write positive or negative sentences.

- ▶ (George/eat/breakfast)
- (George/sleep)
- 1 (They/work)
- (They/sit/in the garden)
- 2 (I/study/music)
- (I/learn/Japanese)

X	George isn't eating breakfast.....
✓	George is sleeping.....
.....
.....
.....
.....