

# Present Progressive

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# 1 Grammar Notes

## A. Form

Present Progressive  
Pattern:

**be + -ing verb**

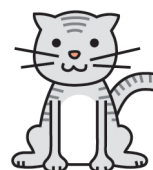
The **present progressive** (also called present continuous) has two parts: the *be* verb and the present participle (*-ing* form) of the verb.

### Pronouns

	First Person	Second Person	Third Person
Singular	I <b>am running</b> .	You <b>are running</b> .	He / She / It <b>is running</b> .
Plural	We <b>are running</b> .	You <b>are running</b> .	They <b>are running</b> .

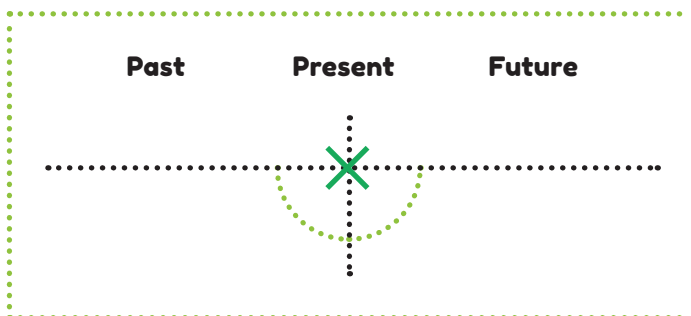
### Nouns

	Examples
<b>Singular Count Nouns</b> (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My friend <b>is running</b>.</li> <li>My cat <b>is eating</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Plural Count Nouns</b> (2 or more)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My classmates <b>are running</b>.</li> <li>The children <b>are sleeping</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Non-Count Nouns</b> (we can't count how many)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water <b>is running</b> down the drain.</li> <li>The snowman <b>is melting</b>.</li> </ul>



# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## B. Use



We use the present progressive when an action is happening **now**. It is a continuing action.

Common Time Markers	Examples
now	She is studying now.
right now	He is calling you right now.
nowadays	My friend is taking piano lessons nowadays.
these days	We are learning English these days.
at the moment	The boy is playing hockey at the moment.
at this time	They are taking a test at this time.

### Did you know?

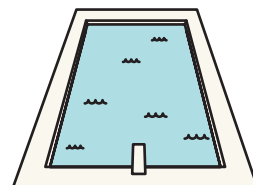
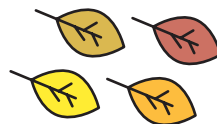
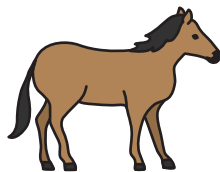
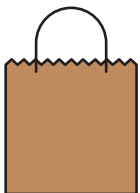
**Non-action** verbs are verbs that aren't an action (= no movement). These verbs usually can't be in the present progressive tense. The present progressive is for **action** verbs.

- ✓ She **is** hungry now.
- ✗ She **is being** hungry now.
- ✓ He **has** a dog.
- ✗ He **is having** a dog.
- ✓ **Do** you **like** pizza?
- ✗ **Are** you **liking** pizza?
- ✓ We **know** all the countries in Europe.
- ✗ We **are knowing** all the countries in Europe.
- ✓ Ice cream **tastes** delicious.
- ✗ Ice cream **is tasting** delicious.

## 2 Multiple-Choice

Choose the correct answer.

- 1 The woman \_\_\_\_\_ to the store now.  
a) are going  
**b) is going**
- 2 Shh! The movie \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) is starting  
b) are starting
- 3 The horses \_\_\_\_\_ in the field.  
a) are running  
b) is running
- 4 You \_\_\_\_\_ in your notebook.  
a) am writing  
b) are writing
- 5 My neighbor \_\_\_\_\_ the leaves.  
a) is raking  
b) am raking
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ to music right now.  
a) am listening  
b) are listening
- 7 They \_\_\_\_\_ swimming lessons nowadays.  
a) is taking  
b) are taking
- 8 Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ baseball at the moment.  
a) are playing  
b) is playing
- 9 The store \_\_\_\_\_ now.  
a) is closing  
b) are closing
- 10 She \_\_\_\_\_ with her new doll.  
a) is playing  
b) am playing



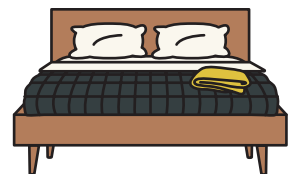
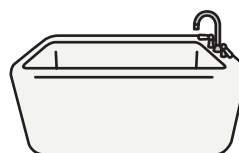
# 3 Fill in the Blanks

Choose a verb from the box, and write the correct present progressive form in the sentences below.

- 1 We are walking to school at the moment.
- 2 My brother \_\_\_\_\_ the guitar right now.
- 3 My father \_\_\_\_\_ coffee.
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ a green sweater today.
- 5 My sister \_\_\_\_\_ to music now.
- 6 They \_\_\_\_\_ pancakes for breakfast.
- 7 The boy \_\_\_\_\_ a bath.
- 8 The children \_\_\_\_\_ in their beds.

## Verbs

- play
- walk
- eat
- listen
- take
- sleep
- drink
- wear

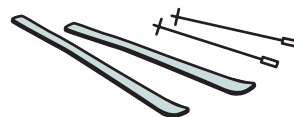
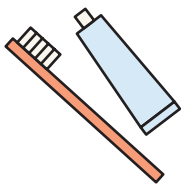


## 4 Act It Out

Your teacher will give you a card with an action.  
Act it out! Your classmates will yell out what you are  
doing. Guess what your classmates are doing too.

### Example

Maria chooses the card “dance.”  
She dances in front of the class.  
John yells out, “She is dancing!”

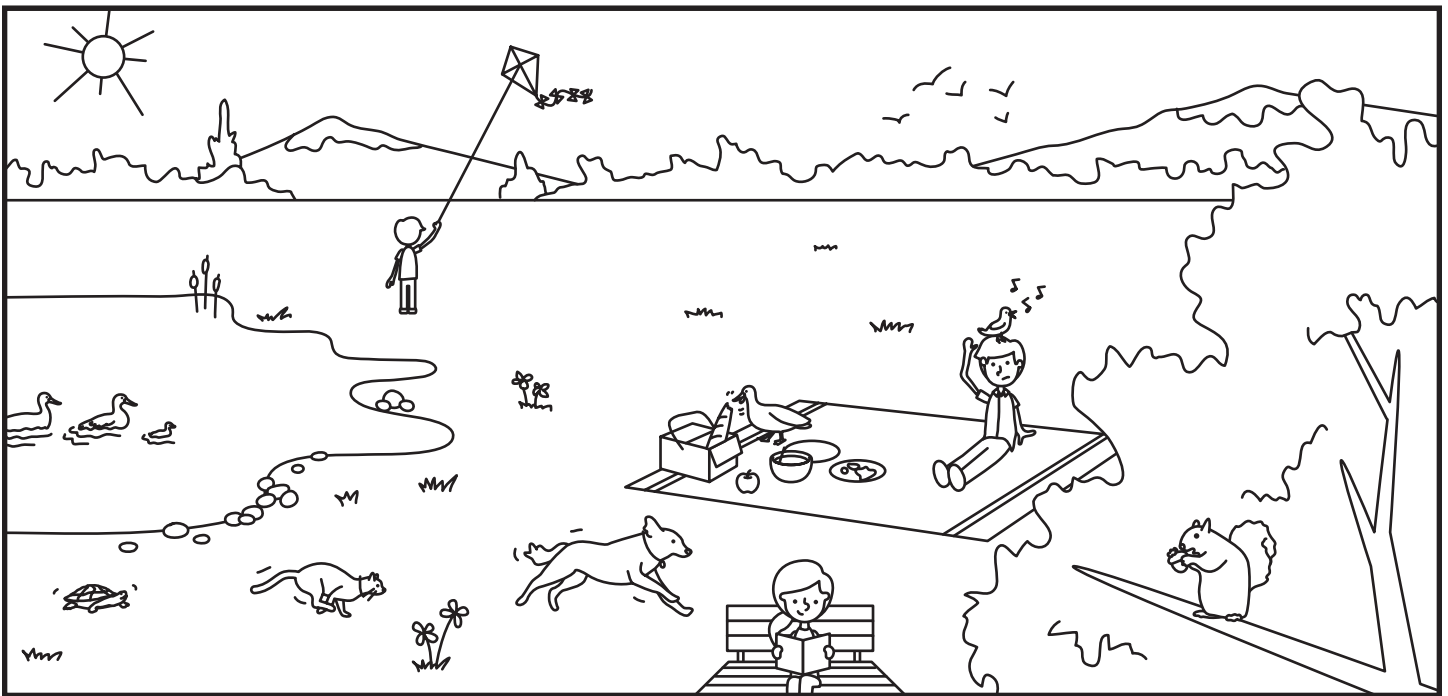


# 5 Picture Time

Look at the picture.

What are the people and animals doing?

Write 5 sentences using the present progressive tense.



- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

# 6 Questions & Answers

Questions	Short Answers	
Are you taking a bath?	Yes, I am.	No, I'm not.
Is he eating dinner?	Yes, he is.	No, he isn't. / No, he's not.
Is she walking to school?	Yes, she is.	No, she isn't. / No, she's not.
Are we learning English together?	Yes, we are.	No, we aren't. / No, we're not.
Are they doing their homework?	Yes, they are.	No, they aren't. / No, they're not.

## A. Short Answers

Write a short answer for each question using the words in parentheses.

1 Is she playing basketball right now?  
(no)

No, she isn't.

2 Are they going to the mall now?  
(yes)

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Is he taking guitar lessons nowadays?  
(yes)

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Are you eating breakfast right now?  
(no)

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Are they playing cards?  
(no)

\_\_\_\_\_

### Did you know?

We can't answer "Yes" with a contraction.

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| ✗ Yes, I'm.  | ✗ Yes, he's.  |
| ✓ Yes, I am. | ✓ Yes, he is. |

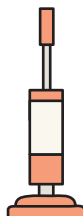
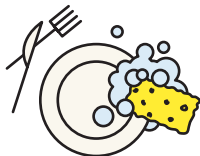


# 6 Questions & Answers cont.

## B. Questions

Now write the question for each answer using the words in parentheses.

- 1 **Are they talking on the phone?**  
 Yes, they are. (**talk on the phone**)
- 2  
 No, I'm not. (**wash the dishes**)
- 3  
 Yes, he is. (**clean his room now**)
- 4  
 Yes, she is. (**feed her dog**)
- 5  
 No, they aren't. (**watch TV right now**)



# 7 Pair Work (Student A)

First, write 5 questions. Use the words in parentheses to help you.  
 Use the present progressive. Next, ask your partner the questions.  
 Write his or her answers. Use short answers.

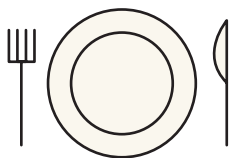
#	Action	Question	Answer
Ex.	(wear a blue shirt)	Are you wearing a blue shirt?	No, she isn't.
1	(wear sneakers)		
2	(study English)		
3	(watch TV)		
4	(talk on the phone)		
5	(hold a pencil)		



# 7 Pair Work (Student B)

First, write 5 questions. Use the words in parentheses to help you.  
 Use the present progressive. Next, ask your partner the questions.  
 Write his or her answers. Use short answers.

#	Action	Question	Answer
Ex.	(wear a blue shirt)	Are you wearing a blue shirt?	No, she isn't.
1	(sit down)		
2	(eat lunch)		
3	(study grammar)		
4	(wear jeans)		
5	(sing a song)		



# 8 Present Vs. Present Progressive

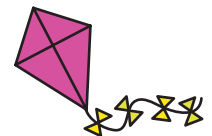
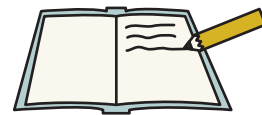
Use the chart below to compare when to use the simple present and present progressive tenses.

	Simple Present	Present Progressive
Form	Base Verb (+ -s)	Be + -ing Verb
Use & Time Markers	<b>Repeated Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>every (every day, every week, every month, every year, etc.)</li> <li>once, twice, three times, etc. (once a week, twice a month, three times a year, etc.)</li> <li>adverbs of frequency (always, almost always, often, usually, sometimes, almost never, never, etc.)</li> </ul>	<b>Continuing Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>now</li> <li>right now</li> <li>nowadays</li> <li>these days</li> <li>at the moment</li> <li>at this time</li> <li>currently</li> <li>presently</li> </ul>
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I <b>play</b> volleyball every day.</li> <li>My sister usually <b>eats</b> cookies after school.</li> <li>Do your parents <b>drink</b> coffee every morning?</li> <li>He never <b>goes</b> outside after dark.</li> <li>They always <b>do</b> their homework.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We <b>are learning</b> many new vocabulary words these days.</li> <li>What <b>are</b> you <b>doing</b> right now?</li> <li>Carla <b>is talking</b> on the phone.</li> <li>The students <b>are taking</b> a test now.</li> <li>They <b>are playing</b> basketball at the moment.</li> </ul>

# 9 Present or Present Progressive?

Fill in the blanks with either the simple present or the present progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

- 1 She is doing her homework now.  
(do)
- 2 The phone \_\_\_\_\_. Please answer it!  
(ring)
- 3 They \_\_\_\_\_ to the park every afternoon.  
(go)
- 4 He \_\_\_\_\_ a kite right now.  
(fly)
- 5 My friends often \_\_\_\_\_ together.  
(study)
- 6 We \_\_\_\_\_ French nowadays.  
(learn)
- 7 Is the class \_\_\_\_\_ now?  
(start)
- 8 Do you \_\_\_\_\_ broccoli?  
(like)
- 9 My cousin never \_\_\_\_\_ TV.  
(watch)
- 10 The children \_\_\_\_\_ with a ball at the moment.  
(play)



# 10 Quiz

Circle the correct answer.

- 1 The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ us homework every day.  
a) is giving  
b) gives
- 2 He \_\_\_\_\_ with his new puppy now.  
a) is playing  
b) plays
- 3 Look outside! It \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) is raining  
b) rains
- 4 Are you \_\_\_\_\_ a book?  
a) reading  
b) read
- 5 We \_\_\_\_\_ two TVs in our house.  
a) are having  
b) have
- 6 Do you \_\_\_\_\_ scary movies?  
a) liking  
b) like
- 7 My friend always \_\_\_\_\_ to talk on the phone.  
a) is wanting  
b) wants
- 8 Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ for you at the moment.  
a) is waiting  
b) waits
- 9 They aren't \_\_\_\_\_ attention.  
a) paying  
b) pay
- 10 Is your friend \_\_\_\_\_ with us?  
a) coming  
b) come
- 11 My brother doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ English.  
a) speaking  
b) speak
- 12 She \_\_\_\_\_ happy.  
a) is being  
b) is