PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

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Affirmative form

Subject + am/is/are + present participle (Ving)

I + am + watching TV.

He
She + is + looking nice at this moment.
It

We
They + are + playing football.
You

Negative form

Subject + am/is/are + not + present participle (Ving)

I + am + not + watching TV.

He
She + is + not + looking nice at this moment.
It

We
They + are + not + playing football.
You

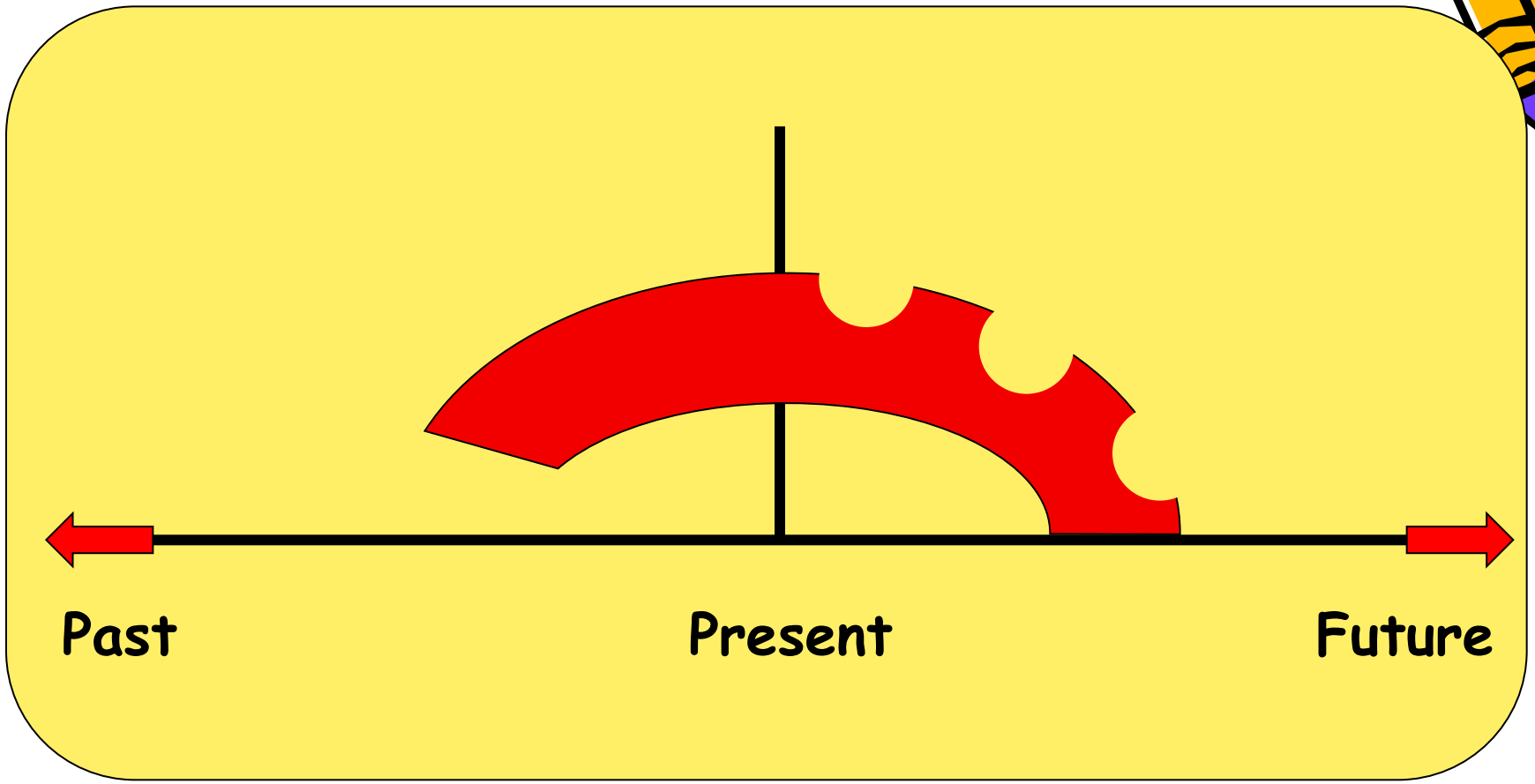
Interrogative form

Is/are + subject + present participle (Ving)

he
Is + she + looking nice at this moment?
it

we
Are + they + playing football?
you

PRESENT CONTINUOUS



The present continuous is used:

- **to describe an action that is going on at this moment:** You are using the Internet. You are studying English grammar.
- **to describe an action that is going on during this period of time or a trend:** Are you still working for the same company? More and more people are becoming vegetarian.
- **to describe an action or event in the future, which has already been planned or prepared:** We're going on holiday tomorrow. I'm meeting my boyfriend tonight. Are they visiting you next winter?
- **to describe a temporary event or situation:** He usually plays the drums, but he's playing bass guitar tonight. The weather forecast was good, but it's raining at the moment.
- **with "always, forever, constantly", to describe and emphasise a continuing series of repeated actions:** Harry and Sally are always arguing! You're constantly complaining about your mother-in-law!

Examples

You are learning English now.
What is he doing?
Why aren't you doing your homework?
I am studying to become a doctor.
Aren't you teaching at the university now?
We are not going to the party tonight.
Is he visiting his parents next weekend?
She is always coming to class late.
I don't like them because they are always complaining.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

It is important to remember that Non-Continuous Verbs cannot be used in any continuous tenses. Also, certain non-continuous meanings for Mixed Verbs cannot be used in continuous tenses. Instead of using Present Continuous with these verbs, you must use Simple Present.

- Examples:

She is loving this chocolate ice cream. Not Correct

She loves this chocolate ice cream. Correct

Verbs that are not usually used in the continuous form

- **Senses / Perception**

to feel*
to hear
to see*
to smell
to taste

- **Opinion**

to assume
to believe
to consider
to doubt
to feel (= to think)
to find (= to consider)
to suppose
to think*

- **Mental states**

to forget
to imagine
to know
to mean
to notice
to recognise
to remember
to understand

- **Emotions / desires**

to envy
to fear
to dislike
to hate
to hope
to like
to love
to mind
to prefer
to regret
to want
to wish

- **Measurement**

to contain
to cost
to hold
to measure
to weigh

- **Others**

to look (=resemble)
to seem
to be (in most cases)
to have (when it means "to possess")

ADVERB PLACEMENT

The examples below show the placement for grammar adverbs such as: always, only, never, ever, still, just, etc.

- Examples:

You are still watching TV.

Are you still watching TV?

Passive Voice – Present Continuous Tense

Object of the active sentence + is/are/am + (not) + being + past participle form of the verb + by + subject of the active sentence.

Examples

- Active: I am reading a story.
- Passive: A story is being read by me.
- Active: I am waiting for him.
- Passive: He is being waited for by me.
- Active: She is not writing a story.
- Passive: A story is not being written by her.
- Active: Are the masons building a house?
- Passive: Is a house being built by the masons?
- Active: Who is waiting for you?
- Passive: By whom are you being waited for?
- Active: Whom are you waiting for?
- Passive: Who is being waited for by you?
- Active: Why is he not learning his lessons?
- Passive: Why are his lessons not being learnt by him?
- Active: Whose father is helping you?
- Passive: By whose father are you being helped?

Test

1. What time _____ for dinner tonight?
is Nick and Rosa coming
Nick and Rosa are coming
do Nick and Rosa come

2. I _____ in the car now.
am waiting
wait
is waiting

3. Take your umbrella. It _____ cats and dogs.
rained
are raining
is raining

4. My Dad _____ overtime this week.
works
are working
is working

Test

5. I really _____ snakes after that case.
am detesting
detest

6. At the moment we _____ over the desert.
have flying
flied
are flying

7. I _____ what you said.
am thinking about
am thinking
think about
think

8. Look! David and Max _____ home.
come
are coming
have come

Thank you for your attantion