

3.2 Grammar

Present Continuous

I can talk about actions happening at the time of speaking.



Oh hello, Mrs Vincent. Yes, everything is fine here. The house is almost ready. **I'm standing** in the living room at the moment and it looks really good. Joey is finishing the bathroom ... What **is he doing** exactly? Erm, he's fitting the shower. Dan and Nick **are working** too ... **Are they working** on the roof? Yes, they are - it's almost finished ... Yes, the gardener is here. He's digging a flowerbed for your roses ... Joey's dog? Yes, he's here, but he **isn't playing** in the house. He's **sleeping** ... Fishing? No, we **aren't fishing**, Mrs Vincent! We're all working very hard! So, are you enjoying your holiday, Mrs Vincent? ... What? Are you coming home now? Right ... er ... fine ... see you soon then.

Dan, Nick and Frank: builders, Joey: plumber, Pete: gardener

- accountant
- architect
- artist
- builder
- dentist
- doctor
- engineer
- factory worker
- farmer
- gardener
- hairdresser
- journalist
- lawyer
- mechanic
- nurse
- plumber
- receptionist
- scientist
- shop assistant
- soldier
- sports instructor
- taxi driver
- teacher
- vet
- waiter

Frank

1 Look at the men in the picture. What are their jobs? Use the words from the box on page 36.

words

Present Continuous

I can talk about actions happening at the time of speaking.



- 2 **CD•2.6 MP3•62** Read and listen to Frank's telephone conversation with Mrs Vincent, the owner of the house. Does Frank tell her the truth?

No



We use the Present Continuous to talk about actions happening at the moment of speaking:

What **are** you **doing**?

The baby's **sleeping**.

SPELLING RULES – -ING FORM

- general rule: infinitive + *-ing*, e.g. *play – playing*
- verbs ending in a consonant + *-e*: ~~e~~ + *-ing*, e.g. *come – coming*
- one-syllable verbs ending in a single vowel + a single consonant: double the consonant + *-ing*, e.g. *run – running*

Affirmative		Negative	
I	'm (am)	I	'm not (am not)
You/We/They	're (are) teaching .	You/We/They	aren't (are not) teaching .
He/She/It	's (is)	He/She/It	isn't (is not)
Yes/No questions		Short answers	
Am	I	Yes, I am . No, I'm not .	
Are	you/we/they teaching ?	Yes, you/we/they are . No, you/we/they aren't .	
Is	he/she/it	Yes, he/she/it is . No, he/she/it isn't .	

Wh- questions

	am	I	
Who	are	you/we/they	teaching ?
	is	he/she/it	

Present Continuous: am/are/is + -ing

You use the **Present Continuous** to talk about actions happening at the time of speaking.

+ I ¹'m **standing** in the living room.

He ²'s **sleeping**

They ³'re **working** too.

- He ⁴**isn't playing** the house.

We ⁵**aren't fishing**

? What ⁶ **is** he **doing** exactly?

⁷ **Are** they **working** on the roof?

Yes, they **are**./No, they **aren't**.

REMEMBER THIS

To form the *-ing* form of a verb:

- add *-ing* to the verb: *stand* → *standing*
- if the verb ends in *-e*, drop *-e*: *make* → *making*
- if the verb ends in a short vowel + a consonant, double the final consonant: *fit* → *fitting*

1 Put the *-ing* form of the verbs in the box in the correct column.

build	chop	dig	fit	give	have	look
ride	sell					

play – playing

come – coming

run – running

building
looking
selling.

giving
hayng
riding

chopping
digging
fitting

2 Complete the questions with the Present Continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Then match the questions (1–6) with the answers (a–f).

1 Is the dog running round the garden?

2 Are you making (make) me a sandwich?

3 Are they sitting (sit) on the roof?

4 Is he frying (he/fry) a fish?

5 Is she taking (she/take) a shower?

6 Are we going (go) to the beach?

d

e

f

c

a

b

a No, she isn't.

b Yes, we are.

c No, he isn't.

d Yes, it is.

e No, I'm not.

f Yes, they are.

3 Choose the correct options.

1 My wife are / **is** playing with the kids in the living room.

2 A: Are you working in the garden?
B: Yes, **I am** / I'm not.

3 A: The baby is / **Is the baby** sleeping?
B: No, isn't / **she isn't**. She's crying!

4 He **isn't** / aren't fishing right now; he's working.

5 **I'm not** / aren't watching TV at the moment.

6 A: What **are** / is the students doing?

B: They're **writing** / write an essay.

7 Why are you wear **wearing** my coat?

8 We is / **are** planning our holiday in Greece. Do you want to come with us?

3.2 Grammar

Complete the sentences about the picture. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

drink eat fry not fit not sleep ~~not stand~~ not work run

- 1 Frank isn't standing in the house. He is frying a fish.
- 2 Dan and Nic aren't working on the roof. They are eating sandwiches.
- 3 Joey isn't fitting the shower. He is drinking coffee.
- 4 The dog isn't sleeping in the house. It is running round the garden.

Use the prompts to make questions.

- 1 What is the teacher doing?
- 2 Is anyone sitting near a window?
- 3 Is anybody wearing something black?
- 4 Are any students writing?
- 5 Are all the students doing this exercise?

In pairs, ask and answer the questions in Exercise 5.

A: *What is the teacher doing?*

B: *He/She is writing on the board.*

Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verb *be*. In negative sentences, use short forms where possible.

- 0 Hello. My name's John. Are you English?
- 1 Paul's brother is here. What is his name?
- 2 John isn't (not) here today. He's at the dentist's.
- 3 That boy looks just like you. Is he your brother?
- 4 Thanks for all your help. You are a really good friend.
- 5 Hi. Nice to meet you. Where are you from?
- 6 You can't come in. We aren't (not) ready.
- 7 I 'm not (not) often late for school but sometimes I have problems waking up.

2 ★ ★ Complete the text with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use short forms where possible.

I ⁰ 'm sitting (sit) in my classroom. We ¹ 're doing (do) a History test. Paul ² 's writing (write) quickly. Maggie ³ isn't writing (not/write). She ⁴ 's thinking (think) but ⁵ is she thinking (think) about the exam or something else? Our teacher ⁶ 's watching (watch) us. He's got a book but he ⁷ isn't reading (not/read) it. Simon and Will ⁸ are talking (talk). They ⁹ aren't trying (not/try) to do the test at all. They don't care. They always do badly in tests. And I'm ... What ¹⁰ am I doing (do)? I ¹¹ 'm wasting (waste) time. Come on, think ... Henry V ...



★ ★ Complete the questions and answers with the phrases from the box.

'm looking Is Paul wearing Are you using
'm not are you waiting 'm waiting
are you doing he is

Cathy: What ⁰are you doing?

Mum: I ⁰⁰'m looking for my phone. I can't find it anywhere.

Conversation 1 are you waiting

Phil: Hi, Ben. Who ^a _____ for?

Ben: I ^b'm waiting for Elaine. She's late – again.

Conversation 2

Andy: Hey, Stuart, ^aare you using our phone?

Stuart: No, I ^b'm not _____. Do you want to borrow it?

Conversation 3

Belinda: Dave, ^ais Paul wearing your coat?

Dave: Yes, ^bhe is _____. He's cold. I don't need it. I'm fine in this sweater.

4 ★ ★ ★ Use the words in brackets to complete the conversations.

Conversation 1

Amy: Hi, Mel. ⁰Are you doing (you/do) anything at the moment?

Mel: Not really. ^a I'm waiting (I/wait) for a phone call.

Amy: From Pete?

Mel: Yes. He's late.

Amy: Is he working today (he/work/today)?

Mel: ^cYes, Yes, he is (he/be). Well, I think he is. I hope he isn't out with his friends!

Conversation 2

Beth: Hi, Cathy. ^aWhat are you cooking (what/you/cook)?

Cathy: A curry. Do you want some?

Beth: No, thanks. ^bJoe is getting pizza (he/get/pizza) for us.

Cathy: ^cWhere is he buying (where/he/buy) it?

Beth: I don't know. Why?

Cathy: Because there's a new pizza restaurant near the station. ^dThey are selling pizzas (sell/pizzas) for half price this week.