

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

A2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Talk about actions now and temporary situations.

1. READ: Getting ready for a party

Read the conversation. Notice the bold present continuous forms.

Nina: Hi, Alex. Can you talk?

Alex: Just for a minute. I'm **making** some food for tonight.

Nina: What **are** you **making**?

Alex: A salad. Sam **is chopping** the vegetables, and I'm **cooking** the rice.

Nina: Sounds good. **Is** Jo **helping** too?

Alex: Not yet. She's **working** late this week. She'll be here at seven.

2. GRAMMAR: Now and around now

Use am / is / are + verb-ing for actions now or temporary situations around now.

Form	Pattern	Example
Positive	be + verb-ing	I'm cooking.
Negative	be + not + verb-ing	She isn't helping.
Question	be + subject + verb-ing	Are you working?

Now: I'm talking to you. **Temporary:** She's working late this week.

Spelling: **work - working; make - making; sit - sitting.**

Short answers: Yes, I am. / No, I'm not. Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct form. The example answer is bold: He is **cooking** / cook.

1. I am / is waiting outside.
2. She is make / making lunch.
3. We aren't / isn't watching TV.
4. Are / Is your friends coming?
5. He is siting / sitting here.
6. What are / is you doing?
7. They are dance / dancing.
8. Is she study / studying today?

Read each answer aloud. Check the subject, the noun or the clue.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: A busy afternoon

Write the present continuous form of each verb. Include am, is or are.

Nina: What (1) _____ (you / do), Alex?

Alex: I (2) _____ (make) a salad for the party.

Nina: (3) _____ (Sam / help) you?

Alex: Yes. He (4) _____ (chop) the vegetables.

Nina: And what about Jo?

Alex: She (5) _____ (not / cook) with us today.

Alex: She (6) _____ (work) late this week.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Make negative sentences. Use isn't or aren't.

Example: He is cooking. **He isn't cooking.**

1. She is making lunch.

2. They are playing tennis.

3-4: Make questions. Example: You are working. **Are you working?**

3. Ben is waiting outside.

4. You are studying today.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three true sentences: two about now and one about a temporary situation.

Example: **I'm learning English. My partner is writing. I'm staying with my sister this week.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

1. Mime an activity. Your partner asks: **Are you cooking?**

Answer: **Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.** Then swap roles.

2. Ask: **What are you doing differently this week?** Ask a follow-up question.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Getting ready for a party

Sample target language from the conversation:

Alex: Just for a minute. I'm **making** some food for tonight.

Nina: What **are** you **making**?

Alex: A salad. Sam **is chopping** the vegetables, and I'm **cooking** the rice.

Nina: Sounds good. **Is** Jo **helping** too?

Alex: Not yet. She's **working** late this week. She'll be here at seven.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. am | 2. making |
| 3. aren't | 4. Are |
| 5. sitting | 6. are |
| 7. dancing | 8. studying |

B. COMPLETE: A busy afternoon

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. are you doing | 2. am making |
| 3. Is Sam helping | 4. is chopping |
| 5. isn't cooking / is not cooking | 6. is working |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. She isn't making lunch.
2. They aren't playing tennis.
3. Is Ben waiting outside?
4. Are you studying today?

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: I'm learning English. My partner is writing. I'm staying with my sister this week.

Teacher note: Accept correct full forms and contractions. This lesson practises actions and temporary situations, not future arrangements. Use full forms in positive short answers.