4.B. **Present Continuous** (p.39)

The present continuous is made from the **present tense of the verb***to* [*be*](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/english-grammar-reference/the-verb-be) and the [*-ing* form](https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/english-grammar-reference/ing-forms) of a verb:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *I****am*** | *worki****ng*** |
| *You****are*** | *play****ing*** |
| *He****is*** | *talk****ing*** |
| *She****is*** | *liv****ing*** |
| *It****is*** | *eat****ing*** |
| *We****are*** | *stay****ing*** |
| *They****are*** | *sleep****ing*** |

* We use the present continuous to talk about:
* **activities at the moment of speaking**:

*I'm just leaving work. I'll be home in an hour.  
Please be quiet. The children are sleeping.*

* **future plans or arrangements:**

*Mary is going to a new school next term.  
What are you doing next week?*

* We make questions by putting *am*, *is* or *are* in front of the subject:

*Are you listening?*  
*Are they coming to your party?  
When is she going home?  
What am I doing here?*

* We make negatives by putting *not* (or *n’t*) after *am*, *is* or *are*:

*I'm not doing that.  
You aren't listening.*

*They aren't coming to the party.*

*She isn't going home until Monday.*

* We do not normally use the continuous with stative verbs. Stative verbs include:
* verbs of **thinking and feeling**:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *believe dislike know like* | *love hate prefer realise* | *recognise remember suppose think*(= believe) | *understand want wish* |

* verbs of the senses:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *appear feel* | *look seem* | *smell sound* | *taste* |

* others:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *agree be* | *belong disagree* | *need owe* | *own possess* |

We normally use the simple instead:

*I understand you.*(NOT*I ~~am understanding~~ you.*)  
*This cake tastes wonderful.*(NOT*This cake ~~is tasting~~ wonderful.*)

* Ex.1,6,7/p.39