

What is Present Continuous for Progressive Actions?

Worksheet

Present Continuous describes actions in progress right now using am/is/are + -ing. It emphasizes the temporary, ongoing nature of the action—what's happening at this moment.

Questions

1. 'He is running very fast.' What does this describe?
A) A habit
B) An action happening right now
C) A permanent state
D) A past event
2. Which is correct for a temporary situation?
A) She lives in Paris this summer.
B) She is living in Paris this summer.
C) She has lived in Paris this summer.
D) She lives Paris this summer.
3. Form the Present Continuous: 'They / play / cards.'
A) They plays cards.
B) They are play cards.
C) They are playing cards.
D) They is playing cards.
4. What's the difference: 'I drink coffee' vs 'I am drinking coffee'?
A) No difference
B) 'Drink' is now, 'drinking' is later
C) 'Drink' is habit, 'drinking' is right now
D) 'Drinking' is past
5. Describe what you're doing right now: 'I am studying English grammar.'
6. Report a current event: 'The children are playing in the park.'
7. Describe a temporary situation: 'She is living in Tokyo this year.'
8. Define: What is Present Continuous?
9. Define: Present Continuous vs Present Simple—difference?
10. Define: Example sentence with Present Continuous?

Answer Key

1. B) An action happening right now — Present Continuous describes an action in progress at the moment of speaking—he's running right now.
2. B) She is living in Paris this summer. — 'Is living' emphasizes the situation is temporary. 'Lives' would suggest she always lives there.
3. C) They are playing cards. — 'They are playing cards'—are (correct plural) + playing (present participle).
4. C) 'Drink' is habit, 'drinking' is right now — 'I drink coffee' = habit/preference. 'I am drinking coffee' = I'm doing it at this moment.
5. Present Continuous: am/is/are + present participle (-ing form). 'I am studying' is happening right now, at this moment. This tense emphasizes the action is ongoing and temporary.
6. Use Present Continuous for actions in progress at the moment of speaking. 'Are playing' shows the action is active right now, not just a habit. If they play every day, use Present Simple: 'The children play in the park.'
7. Present Continuous often describes temporary situations. 'Is living' suggests the stay is temporary, not permanent. Compare to 'She lives in Tokyo' which suggests permanence.
8. am/is/are + -ing verb form, describing actions happening right now or during a current period.
9. Continuous: action happening now, in progress. Simple: regular habit or permanent fact.
10. 'I am writing an email' (right now) vs 'I write emails' (regular habit).

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