

UNIT 13 Present continuous

Usage

A

- to say what is taking place in a given moment (for example, when we are talking on our mobile phones, describing a scene or picture). In this case, we often use adverbs or time expressions like **now, just / right now, at the moment, at present**, which usually come at the end of the sentence.

Look. It's raining hard.

I'm watching a film right now.

My father's working in the garden at the moment.

B

- to describe an action that has already begun but hasn't ended, not necessarily at the exact moment you are talking, but at that time.

I'm learning French. (at this time)

She's taking a course in business English. (and she hasn't finished it yet)

C

- to highlight, with a certain sense of annoyance, something which is done insistently, or which is done, but should be. We use the adverb **always** with the present continuous in this case.

You're always talking! (it irritates me)

D

- to talk about situations that are temporary or different from what one usually does.

I'm staying with an English family. (at this time, it's not my normal residence)

This week, I'm working in the morning. (not always, only for this week)

I'm teaching in a private school this year.

E

- to talk about future actions that are already foreseen or planned. In this case, we always use an adverb or a time expression like **tonight, tomorrow, next week / year**.

What are you doing next summer?

I'm going to the mountains.

I'm meeting him at the airport tomorrow at nine o'clock.

I'm starting a new school year.

Student's notes

.....

.....

EXERCISES

Present continuous – Usage **UNIT 13**

NAME: student code DATE: / /

LEVEL: CEFR L TIME: -

13.1 Choose the correct alternative.

- 1 I'm looking after my friend's pet spiders at the **moment / present**.
- 2 The kids are going bird-watching **last / next** weekend.
- 3 Be quiet! You're **always / never** talking about your hobbies!
- 4 Where are you going next **night / summer**?
- 5 Sol's going rollerblading **at / right** now.
- 6 Fred and Vera are spending a lot of time bird-watching these **days / moments**.
- 7 I'm not doing anything special **yesterday / tomorrow**.
- 8 Are you carrying on collecting Spider-Man comics **last / this** year?

13.2 Find the mistakes and underline them. Then write the correct sentences.

- 1 We're meet Simon at the concert at seven.
.....
- 2 They're studying English in London last month.
.....
- 3 Angela's spending always her money on stupid things.
.....
- 4 Learning you how to cook Chinese food?
.....
- 5 Sophie and I am collecting flowers at the moment.
.....
- 6 What are you doing evening?
.....

13.3 Simon is writing to his parent about what he will do at karate summer camp.

Saturday

10.00: train on the beach

12.00: have lunch in the hotel

14.00: meet at the sports centre

15.00: take part in the tournament

19.00: go to restaurant for dinner

Sunday

09.00: visit the town

12.00: leave on the coaches

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

13.4 Complete the text using the words in the box.

They're (x2) you're is (x 2) are (x 2) ~~am~~ listening writing spending trying

(1)..... talking to you from Camton Youth Centre. The young people are all busy. (2)..... learning new hobbies and pastimes. Some of them (3)..... making things out of pottery – they're (4)..... to use the potter's wheel that we have here, but it isn't easy! Other are painting and one boy (5)..... carving something out of wood. One group of young people (6)..... sitting in the next room. They're (7)..... to a guest speaking who (8)..... talking about writing blogs. (9)..... getting some advice and learning what not to do when they're (10)..... their blogs. If (11)..... looking for a new way of (12)..... your free time, why not come and join us?

Teacher's observations