Learn Grammar

Read and learn.



Learn Grammar

Review of Continuous Tenses

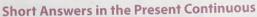
Present Continuous

Affirmative: am / is / are + -ing form of verb

Negative: am not / is not / are not + -ing form of verb Questions: Am / Is / Are + subject + -ing form of verb ... ?

Work is progressing very well at the moment.

In speaking, you often use the short form: am = 'm is = 's.



Yes, + subject + am / is / are.

No, + subject + 'm not / isn't / aren't.

Past Continuous

Affirmative: was / were + -ing form of verb

was not / were not + -ing form of verb Negative:

Questions: Was / Were + subject + -ing form of verb ...?

For the whole of last year, they were building the section to Manipur.

In speaking, you often use the short form for negatives: was not = wasn't were not = weren't.

Short Answers in the Past Continuous

Yes, + subject + was / were.

No, + subject + wasn't / weren't.

Present Perfect Continuous

Affirmative: have / has + been + -ing form of verb

haven't / hasn't + been + -ing form of verb Negative:

Questions: Have / Has + subject + been + -ing form of verb ...?

The engineers have been working on the first part of a new highway.

In speaking, you often use the short form: have = 've has = 's.

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about an action that started in the past and is continuing now. It is often used with for or since.

We have been working on	the highway for two years.	
Past	Present	Future
Action started in past.	Action is continuing now.	

You often use for to talk about a period of time – five minutes, three weeks, two years, a long time – and since to talk about a moment in the past – ten o'clock, May 1, Sunday.



Learn Grammar Review of Continuous Tenses

Short Answers in the Present Perfect Continuous

No, + subject + hasn't / haven't. Yes, + subject + has / have.

Have you been working on the road for a long time? Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

Future Continuous

Affirmative: will + be + -ing form of verb will not + be + -ing form of verb Negative:

Questions: Will + subject + be + -ing form of verb ...?

In our presentation today, we will be talking about a new road.

They won't be starting work on that for several years.

When you use the present perfect continuous tense in speaking, you often use

the short form: $will = 'll \quad will not = won't$.

Short Answers in the Future

Yes, + subject + will.

No, + subject + won't.

Match the sentences to the tenses. There are two extra sentences.

- 1 present continuous
- 2 past continuous
- 3 present perfect continuous
- 4 future continuous

- a We've been working hard.
- b We'll be finishing the job in June.
- **c** We are completing the plans this week.
- **d** We like working on this project.
- e They were building the road all last year.
- f He enjoys working on this team.

Rewrite the sentences with the short forms of the verbs.

- 1 We will be starting the project next week.
- 2 They have been working here since 2013.
- 3 He is finishing the plans today.

Listen and read. Underline all of the continuous tenses. (1) 05

Progress report

We have been building the bridge since January of this year. We had big problems at the beginning of the project, and from January to April, we were only working on the first ten meters of Section 1. Most of the problems are now worked out, and work is now progressing well. At the moment, we are finishing Section 2. Next month, in June, we will be starting work on the final section. We are hoping to complete the project by the end of the year.



