

PRACTICAL LESSON

Present Continuous Tense

Lesson category: Mësimet në gjuhë angleze

Form am, is or are plus verb-ing for actions happening now, temporary situations, changing trends and future arrangements. Includes the -ing spelling rules and the stative verbs that avoid the continuous.

Present Continuous Tense

The present continuous describes something **in progress** rather than something generally true. It is built from the present of **be** plus the **-ing** form of the main verb, and it covers four main ideas: happening now, temporary, changing, and already arranged for the future.

Learning objectives

- Build the tense with **am / is / are + verb-ing**.
- Use it for actions now, temporary situations, trends and future arrangements.
- Apply the **-ing** spelling rules.
- Recognise the stative verbs that do not normally take this form.

Meaning and usage

Use	Example	Typical marker
Happening at this moment	<i>She is reading a book.</i>	now, right now
Around this period	<i>I'm studying for my exams.</i>	these days, this week
Temporary situation	<i>He's staying with friends.</i>	at the moment
Changing or developing	<i>Prices are rising.</i>	more and more
Future arrangement	<i>We're meeting at eight.</i>	tomorrow, on Friday
Irritating repetition (with always)	<i>He's always losing his keys.</i>	always, constantly

The form

Subject	Affirmative	Negative	Question
I	I'm working	I'm not working	Am I working?
you	you're working	you aren't working	Are you working?
he / she / it	he's working	he isn't working	Is he working?

Subject	Affirmative	Negative	Question
we	we're working	we aren't working	Are we working?
they	they're working	they aren't working	Are they working?

Short answers use *be*, not *do*: Yes, *I am*. / No, *she isn't*.

Spelling rules for -ing

Ending	Rule	Examples
most verbs	add -ing	<i>work</i> → <i>working</i> ; <i>play</i> → <i>playing</i>
silent -e	drop the e	<i>make</i> → <i>making</i> ; <i>write</i> → <i>writing</i>
one vowel + one consonant, stressed	double the consonant	<i>sit</i> → <i>sitting</i> ; <i>run</i> → <i>running</i> ; <i>begin</i> → <i>beginning</i>
-ie	ie → y	<i>lie</i> → <i>lying</i> ; <i>die</i> → <i>dying</i>
-ee, -ye, -oe	keep the e	<i>see</i> → <i>seeing</i> ; <i>agree</i> → <i>agreeing</i>
British -l after a vowel	double the l	<i>travel</i> → <i>travelling</i> (US: <i>traveling</i>)

Stative verbs

Verbs of thinking, feeling, possession and the senses normally avoid the continuous: *know*, *believe*, *understand*, *want*, *need*, *like*, *love*, *hate*, *prefer*, *own*, *belong*, *seem*, *contain*, *cost*.

Some verbs change meaning between the two forms:

Verb	Simple (state)	Continuous (action)
think	<i>I think you're right.</i> (opinion)	<i>I'm thinking about it.</i> (mental activity)
have	<i>She has a car.</i> (possession)	<i>She's having lunch.</i> (eating)
see	<i>I see what you mean.</i> (understand)	<i>I'm seeing the doctor.</i> (meeting)
taste	<i>It tastes good.</i> (quality)	<i>He's tasting the soup.</i> (action)

Signal words and time expressions

now, right now, at the moment, currently, today, this week, these days, still, at present, look!, listen!

Common mistakes

Mistake	Correct	Why
<i>She working now.</i>	She is working now.	<i>be</i> is required
<i>I am go to school.</i>	I am going to school.	the <i>-ing</i> form is required
<i>He is writting.</i>	He is writing.	drop the silent <i>e</i> , no doubling

Mistake	Correct	Why
<i>I am wanting a coffee.</i>	I want a coffee.	stative verb
<i>Do you working?</i>	Are you working?	the auxiliary is <i>be</i>
<i>I am studing.</i>	I am studying.	<i>y</i> is kept before <i>-ing</i>

Learning tips

1. Describe a photograph aloud. Every sentence will naturally be present continuous.
2. Memorise the doubling rule with three examples: *sitting, running, beginning*.
3. Whenever you write a continuous form, check the verb is not stative.

Summary checklist

- Is there a form of **be** before the **-ing** verb?
- Is the **-ing** spelling correct?
- Is the verb dynamic rather than stative?
- Do my questions and short answers use *be*, not *do*?

Shpjegim në gjuhën shqipe

Rregulli i anglishtes, i shpjeguar në shqip

Kjo kohë ndërtohet me foljen **be** në kohën e tashme (*am, is, are*) plus foljen kryesore me mbaresën **-ing**. Folja ndihmëse është *be*, prandaj pyetja bëhet me përmbyse dhe mohimi me *not*, kurrë me *do*.

Drejtshkrimi i **-ing** ndjek disa rregulla: shumica e foljeve e marrin drejtpërdrejt; foljet që mbarojnë me *-e* të pazëshme e humbin atë (*make → making*); foljet njërrrokëshe me një zanore dhe një bashkëtingëllore e dyfishojnë bashkëtingëlloren (*sit → sitting*); foljet me *-ie* e kthejnë atë në *y* (*lie → lying*).

Koha përdoret për katër kuptime: veprim që po ndodh tani; situatë e përkohshme rreth kësaj periudhe; ndryshim ose zhvillim; dhe marrëveshje e caktuar për të ardhmen.

Ashtu si më lart, **foljet e gjendjes** nuk e marrin këtë formë. Disa folje e ndryshojnë kuptimin midis dy formave, si *have, think, see* dhe *be*.

Ekuivalenti në gjuhën shqipe

Kjo është një nga rastet ku dy gjuhët përputhen shumë mirë. Forma angleze **am / is / are + verb-ing** i përgjigjet gati saktësisht ndërtimit shqip me pjesëzën **po** + folja në kohën e tashme.

Anglisht	Shqip
<i>I am reading.</i>	Po lexoj.
<i>She is working.</i>	Ajo po punon.
<i>They are waiting.</i>	Ata po presin.

Anglisht	Shqip
<i>It is raining.</i>	Po bie shi.

Ekuivalenti më i afërt në gjuhën shqipe është pra pjesëza **po**. Ekziston edhe ndërtimi *jam duke lexuar*, i cili është më i rëndë dhe përdoret më rrallë në ligjërimin e përditshëm.

Përdorimet dhe ekuivalentët

Përdorimi	Anglisht	Shqip
Tani	<i>She is reading a book.</i>	Ajo po lexon një libër.
Rreth kësaj periudhe	<i>I'm studying for my exams.</i>	Këto ditë po përgatitem për provimet.
Gjendje e përkohshme	<i>He's staying with friends.</i>	Ai po rri te shokët.
Ndryshim në zhvillim	<i>Prices are rising.</i>	Çmimet po rriten.
Marrëveshje për të ardhmen	<i>We're meeting at eight.</i>	Takohemi në orën tetë.

Kujdes: te rasti i fundit shqipja nuk e përdor *po*. Marrëveshja për të ardhmen shprehet me kohën e tashme të thjeshtë ose me *do të*. Prandaj *We're meeting at eight* nuk përkthehet me *po takohemi*.

Foljet që nuk marrin formën e vazhduar

Anglishtja i ndalon foljet e gjendjes në këtë formë. Shqipja e lejon *po* me shumicën e foljeve, prandaj ky kufizim duhet mësuar posaçërisht.

Shqip	Anglisht e saktë	Gabimi tipik
E di përgjigjen.	I know the answer.	<i>I am knowing</i>
Dua një kafe.	I want a coffee.	<i>I am wanting</i>
Më pëlqen kjo këngë.	I like this song.	<i>I am liking</i>
Ai ka një makinë.	He has a car.	<i>He is having a car</i>

Disa folje e ndryshojnë kuptimin: *He is having lunch* është e saktë, sepse aty *have* do të thotë «ha», jo «zotëron» — në shqip **po ha drekë**.

Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
<i>She working now.</i>	She is working now.	folja <i>be</i> është e detyrueshme
<i>I am go to school.</i>	I am going to school.	kërket forma me <i>-ing</i>
<i>Do you working?</i>	Are you working?	ndihmësja është <i>be</i> , jo <i>do</i>
<i>Every day I am going to work.</i>	Every day I go to work.	zakoni kërkon të tashmen e thjeshtë

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
He is writting.	He is writing.	bie e-ja, pa dyfishim

ENGLISH FOR LIFE