

40 Present continuous (2)



1 Form

| Yes/No QUESTIONS | | | SHORT ANSWERS | |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Am | I | | Yes, I am. | No, I'm not. |
| Is | he/she/it | sitting here? | Yes, he/she/it is. | No, he/she/it isn't. |
| Are | we/you/they | | Yes, we/you/they are. | No, we/you/they aren't. |

Wh- QUESTIONS

| | | | |
|-------|-----|-------------|----------|
| What | am | I | doing? |
| Where | is | he/she/it | going? |
| Why | are | we/you/they | running? |

In questions, we put *am/is/are* before the subject of the sentence.

We put the *-ing* form after the subject:

What **are** you **studying** this term?

Is she **listening** to the radio?

- ! ~~X Are waiting you for me?~~
- ~~X Waiting are you for me?~~
- ✓ Are you waiting for me?

- ! We don't usually repeat the main verb when we answer questions:

Is that man **phoning** the police? ~~X Yes, he is phoning.~~ ✓ Yes, he is.

~~X No, he isn't phoning.~~ ✓ No, he isn't.

- ! We don't use the short form of the verb in short answers with *yes*.

Is she sleeping? ~~X Yes, she's.~~
✓ Yes, she is.

2 Use

We often use the present continuous to talk about what is happening in pictures and photos:

What **are** they **doing**?

– They're **watching** a film.

That's an interesting painting. Is that woman writing something?

No, she isn't. She's reading a letter.

