

WEEK 1:

BASIC STRUCTURE

A typical English sentence has three distinct parts:

Subject + Verb + Complement/Object

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

It is used to describe **habits, unchanging situations, general truths, and fixed arrangements.**

SUBJECT+VERB+OBJECT

- I
You
We
They } (DO) + Verb + Object

I am a student at Ankara University.(+)
We don't work on Saturday.(-)
Do you read a newspaper every day? (?)
Yes, I do.

- She
He
It } (DOES) + Verb + Object

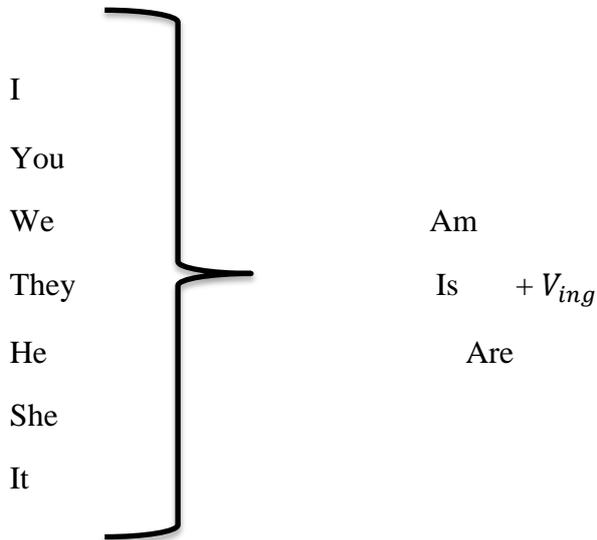
She lives in Ankara.(+)
He doesn't drink tea at breakfast.(-)
Does she go to concert? (?)
No, she doesn't.

1. Referring to habitual activity = I get up early in the morning.
2. Factual statements or eternal truths = the earth revolves around the sun.
3. Referring to arranged future = the examination starts 9 o'clock tomorrow.
4. Formal, ceremonial = I name this ship Independence.
5. Instantaneous use/Sport Commentaries = Michael maintains his lead over the other athletes.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

We use the Present Continuous with Continuous Verbs to express the idea that something is happening now, at this very moment.

Subject + be + Ving



- She **is** cleaning the house at the moment. (+)
- They **aren't** coming to cinema with us. (-)
- Are you working at this restaurant? (?)

Yes, I am

- Now, at the moment, at present, at the present time, currently, nowadays

1. Current = The World Health Organization is currently holding its annual assembly in Geneva.

2. At present = at present, many women are doing jobs that only men used to do.

3. For the time being = She'll rent a flat, but for time being she is staying with her aunt.

4. At the moment/now = Ali is working in the garden at the moment/now.

5. Look! Or Listen! = Look! A man is waving to us from the other side of the Street.

6. While/When = While you are studying, I'll go shopping.

7. Nowadays/these days = we used to listen to the radio a lot but nowadays we watch television.

1. The present continuous tense indicates an action which is in progress at the time of speaking or at the present time
 - She is cooking lunch in the kitchen **now**.
 - He is working in the garden **today**.
2. This tense can also refer to arranged future
 - John is starting work **tomorrow**.

Longer Actions in Progress Now

In English, now can mean "this second," "today," "this month," "this year," "this century" and so on. Sometimes we use the Present Continuous to say that we are in the process of doing a longer action which is in progress.

- I am studying to become an engineer

Near Future

Sometimes, speakers use the Present Continuous to indicate that something will or will not happen in the near future.

- I am meeting some friends after work.

Complaining with "Always"

The Present Continuous with words such as "always" expresses the idea that something often happens. Notice that the meaning is like Simple Present but with negative emotion.

- She is constantly speaking. I wish she would shut up.

State verbs

- **Don't use the verbs as like, be, believe, love, understand, want, hate, know, agree, have (got), think with present continuous tense.**

She is loving chocolate. (False)

She loves chocolate. (True)

EXERCISES:

A) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs and the adverbs of frequency in parentheses.

- 1) Julia _____ (arrive, usually) on time.
- 2) Tom _____ (be, always) on time.
He _____ (come, never) late.
- 3) Our teacher _____ (be, often) early for school.
He _____ (photocopy, usually) the worksheets.
- 4) The school canteen _____ (be, usually) crowded, so Michael and I
_____ (eat, sometimes) in a restaurant.
- 5) The lessons _____ (be, often) difficult, so we
_____ (study, always) hard.
- 6) Ask him. He _____ (be, always) helpful.

B) Fill in the blanks with am, is, are and the correct form of the verbs.

- 1) We _____ (have) a good time.
- 2) She _____ (wear) a hat.
- 3) I think John _____ (play) football now.
- 4) He _____ (talk) to Michael at the moment.
- 5) Jim and Sarah _____ (do) their homework.