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# UNIT

## 7

# TALKING ABOUT ACTIONS HAPPENING NOW

### Present Continuous (✓ - X - ?)

We use the Present Continuous for **actions** that are happening **now**.

*I **am dusting** the furniture right now.*

#### Spelling tips

write	→	writing	!	travel	→	travelling
swim	→	swimming	!	dry	→	drying

#### Affirmative (✓)

##### Full form

I am cleaning  
you are cleaning  
he is cleaning  
she is cleaning  
it is cleaning  
we are cleaning  
you are cleaning  
they are cleaning

##### Short form

I'm cleaning  
you're cleaning  
he's cleaning  
she's cleaning  
it's cleaning  
we're cleaning  
you're cleaning  
they're cleaning

#### Negative (X)

##### Full form

I am not cleaning  
you are not cleaning  
he is not cleaning  
she is not cleaning  
it is not cleaning  
we are not cleaning  
you are not cleaning  
they are not cleaning

##### Short form

I'm not cleaning  
you aren't cleaning  
he isn't cleaning  
she isn't cleaning  
it isn't cleaning  
we aren't cleaning  
you aren't cleaning  
they aren't cleaning

#### Interrogative (?)

Am I cleaning?  
Are you cleaning?  
Is he cleaning?  
Is she cleaning?  
Is it cleaning?  
Are we cleaning?  
Are you cleaning?  
Are they cleaning?

#### Short answers

Yes, you are. / No, you aren't.  
Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.  
Yes, he is. / No, he isn't.  
Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.  
Yes, it is. / No, it isn't.

Yes, you are. / No, you aren't.  
Yes, we are. / No, we aren't.  
Yes, they are. / No, they aren't.

**Time expressions**  
(right) now  
at the moment

### 1. Complete the table with the -ing form and the Present Continuous (✓) of the verbs.

verb	verb + ing	Present Continuous
1. change	changing	I'm changing
2. finish	finishing	you 're finishing
3. chat	chatting	he 's chatting
4. travel	travelling	she 's travelling
5. make	making	it 's making
6. put	putting	we 're putting
7. save	saving	you 're saving
8. try	trying	they 're trying

### 2. Complete with the Present Continuous (✓) of the verbs in the box. Then, rewrite the sentences in the negative (X) and interrogative (?).

talk ~~charge~~ get shave

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. (✓) You <b>'re charging</b> your mobile.<br>(X) <b>You aren't charging your mobile.</b><br>(?) <b>Are you charging your mobile?</b> | 3. (✓) Tony <b>'s shaving</b> his beard.<br>(X) <b>Tony isn't shaving his beard.</b><br>(?) <b>Is Tony shaving his beard?</b>  |
| 2. (✓) I <b>'m talking</b> to Mrs Peterson.<br>(X) <b>I'm not talking to Mrs Peterson.</b><br>(?) <b>Am I talking to Mrs Peterson?</b> | 4. (✓) They <b>'re getting</b> ready for the meeting.<br>(X) <b>They aren't getting ready for the meeting.</b><br>(?) <b>Are they getting ready for the meeting?</b> |

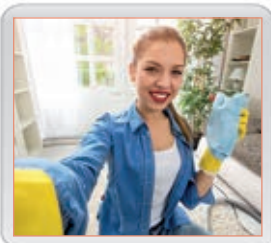
3. Look at the pictures and complete the live chats with the Present Continuous (✓) of the verbs in the box.

drive paint play do walk buy

**1**

CU in 10'???

Busy now! I 'm doing chores.




Type a message ...

**2**

Are U with Grant?

Yes, he 's buying shoes.




Type a message ...

**3**

Are you @ home?

No, we 're driving to the beach.




Type a message ...

**4**

Are Will & Scott there?

Yes, they 're playing Ping-Pong right now. Boooring




Type a message ...

**5**

Still at the office?

No, I 'm walking to the pub.

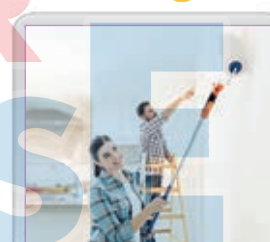


Type a message ...

**6**

RU at Rob and Tina's flat?

Yes, they 're painting the kitchen walls. 🤪



Type a message ...

4. Look at the people in the picture. Then, complete the questions and answer them using the Present Continuous.



1. - Is Kim reading (Kim / read) a newspaper?  
- No, she isn't. She's playing the piano.
2. - Is Frank sitting (Frank / sit) under a tree?  
- Yes, he is.
3. - Is Mia using (Mia / use) her laptop?  
- No, she isn't. She's using her smartphone.
4. - Is Kim wearing (Kim / wear) jeans?  
- No, she isn't. She's wearing a dress.
5. - Are John and Mia taking (John and Mia / take) pictures?  
- Yes, they are.
6. - Is Frank drinking (Frank / drink) coffee?  
- No, he isn't. He's eating a sandwich.



5. Put the words/phrases in the correct order to form sentences.

1. searching for / the file / I / am
2. it / raining / isn't / now
3. winning / is / at the moment / your team
4. is / Ed / on the sofa / sleeping
5. aren't / we / at the moment / studying
6. listening / you / are / right now / to the radio

I am searching for the file  
 It isn't raining now  
 Is your team winning at the moment?  
 Ed is sleeping on the sofa  
 We aren't studying at the moment  
 Are you listening to the radio right now?

6. Read the telephone conversations and complete with the Present Continuous (✓ - X - ?) of the verbs in brackets.

CONVERSATION A

Colin: Hello! Colin speaking.  
 Seth: Hey! How are you?  
 C: Oh hi, Seth! What's up?  
 S: I <sup>1</sup> 'm having (have) a problem with my flight tickets.  
 C: <sup>2</sup> Are you trying (you / try) to cancel your reservation again?  
 S: Yes, but I can't do it. Can you help me?  
 C: Er ... I'm a bit busy. I <sup>3</sup> 'm working (work) on my project right now. My boss <sup>4</sup> is waiting (wait) for me to finish it.  
 S: How about after the lunch break, then?  
 C: Sure, no problem.  
 S: Thank you!



CONVERSATION B

Jenna: Hello!  
 Danny: Hi, Jenna. How are you?  
 J: Fine. Who <sup>5</sup> 's calling (call)?  
 D: It's Danny.  
 J: Oh hey, Danny! <sup>6</sup> Are you looking for (you / look for) my sister?  
 D: Yes, is she there? She <sup>7</sup> isn't answering (not answer) her phone.  
 J: No, she's with Mum. They <sup>8</sup> 're shopping (shop) for new curtains.  
 D: OK, I can call back later. Thanks.  
 J: Bye!



7. Complete with the -ing form of the verbs in the box. Then, write whether the form used is the Present Continuous (PC) or the gerund (G).

dance use fly ~~come~~ stop send

1. I'm not looking forward to coming to this concert. G
2. Pauline isn't sending emails at the moment. PC
3. Dancing to disco music is fun. G
4. Is Larry flying to New York right now? PC
5. Look! That car is stopping in front of our house! PC
6. You can't do the dishes without using water. G

8. Read and underline the mistakes. Then, write your corrections.

1. Are scanning the children pictures at the moment? Are the children scanning
2. Look! Maria rides a horse. is riding
3. What Gary doing now? What is Gary
4. He not texting his girlfriend at the moment. He is not
5. Lea isn't book a hotel room right now. booking
6. Do your parents visiting the museum right now? Are

# PROGRESS CHECK

# 7

Read and circle the correct option.

/ 20

1. - Can I take your battery charger?  
- I'm sorry but I ..... it right now.  
A. use  
B. using  
☒ C. am using
2. - Where are the children?  
- ..... playing in their room.  
A. They  
☒ B. They're  
C. Their
3. - ..... home now? - Yes. See you tomorrow.  
A. You going  
B. Are you go  
☒ C. Are you going
4. - Can you scan these photos, please?  
- Sorry. I'm afraid the machine ..... working.  
A. is  
B. not  
☒ C. isn't
5. - Are you printing the emails? - Yes, .....  
A. we're  
☒ B. we are  
C. I'm
6. - Where's Matthew?  
- He isn't here. He's ..... to Poland at the moment.  
☒ A. travelling  
B. travels  
C. travel
7. Please be quiet! ..... studying for her exams.  
A. Your sister  
☒ B. Your sister's  
C. Your sisters
8. I'm picking up the kids .....  
A. every day  
B. on Mondays  
☒ C. at the moment
9. Look at this old photo. Megan and I ..... putting on make-up for the first time!  
A. is  
☒ B. are  
C. am
10. - Is the train leaving now? - Yes, .....  
☒ A. it is  
B. it's  
C. is leaving
11. You can turn off the TV. I'm ..... it.  
☒ A. not watching  
B. watching  
C. not watch
12. Sarah ..... on the phone with her cousins in Australia.  
A. chatting  
B. is chating  
☒ C. is chatting
13. - What are you up to?  
- Nothing much. .... 're just trying out this old typewriter.  
A. I  
☒ B. We  
C. She
14. - Is Tammy ..... a blog post? - Yes, she is.  
☒ A. writing  
B. writting  
C. writeing
15. - Are they texting their friends?  
- No, they .....  
A. not  
B. not are  
☒ C. aren't
16. - Who ..... talking to?  
- My mother.  
A. you are  
☒ B. are you  
C. you
17. - Are you crying? - No, ..... I'm just tired.  
A. I aren't  
☒ B. I'm not  
C. I not
18. I'm ..... with the guys now. See you later!  
A. go fishing  
☒ B. going fishing  
C. going for fishing
19. - Good morning. Could I speak to Mr Stone, please? - May I ask who .....?  
A. calls  
☒ B. is calling  
C. calling
20. Look! My dog ..... all over the house!  
A. running  
B. is runing  
☒ C. is running

# UNIT

## 9

# TALKING ABOUT PAST ACTIONS, HABITS & STATES (1)

### Past Simple: regular verbs (v)

We use the Past Simple for **past**:

- **actions** They **opened** a new bank account yesterday.
- **habits** In the past, Ian **visited** his cousin every week.
- **states** We **loved** that game show when we were kids.

#### Affirmative (v)

I cleaned  
you cleaned  
he cleaned  
she cleaned  
it cleaned  
we cleaned  
you cleaned  
they cleaned

#### Spelling tips

clean → cleaned  
dance → danced (verbs ending in -e)  
stop → stopped (one-syllable verbs ending in consonant-vowel-consonant)  
study → studied (verbs ending in consonant + -y)  
! play → played (verbs ending in vowel + -y)  
! travel → travelled  
prefer → preferred

#### Time expressions

yesterday (morning)  
last night/week/month/year  
a week/month/year ago  
in 1994

1. Complete the table with the Past Simple (v) of the verbs in the box.

try hope talk rub	enjoy mop close hurry	1 asked	2 liked	3 dropped	4 worried
		talked	hoped	rubbed	tried
		enjoyed	closed	mopped	hurried

2. Complete with the Past Simple (v) of the verbs in brackets.

- She helped (help) us with the project yesterday.
- I changed (change) my phone number last week.
- They planned (plan) their holidays months ago.
- We copied (copy) the files to a USB stick.
- He stayed (stay) at a nice hotel last month.
- You preferred (prefer) pop music for your party.

3. Look at the pictures and write sentences using the prompts, the Past Simple (v) and the phrases from the box.

cry during the film arrive at the office ~~practise the guitar~~ travel to Barcelona

	I / yesterday  I practised the guitar yesterday.		Oscar / last night  Oscar cried during the film last night.
	we / in 2012  We travelled to Barcelona in 2012.		the parcel / two days ago  The parcel arrived at the office two days ago.



## Past Simple: the verb "be" (✓ - ✗ - ?)

Affirmative (✓)	Negative (✗)		Interrogative (?) & Short answers	
	Full form	Short form		
I was	I was not	I wasn't	Was I?	Yes, you were. / No, you weren't.
you were	you were not	you weren't	Were you?	Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.
he was	he was not	he wasn't	Was he?	Yes, he was. / No, he wasn't.
she was	she was not	she wasn't	Was she?	Yes, she was. / No, she wasn't.
it was	it was not	it wasn't	Was it?	Yes, it was. / No, it wasn't.
we were	we were not	we weren't	Were we?	Yes, you were. / No, you weren't.
you were	you were not	you weren't	Were you?	Yes, we were. / No, we weren't.
they were	they were not	they weren't	Were they?	Yes, they were. / No, they weren't.

### 4. Complete with the Past Simple (✓) of the verb "be". Then, rewrite the sentences in the negative (✗) and interrogative (?).

- (✓) Mrs Lee was with us at the pub last night.      3. (✓) I was rude to Stephanie yesterday.  
 (✗) Mrs Lee wasn't with us at the pub last night.      (✗) I wasn't rude to Stephanie yesterday.  
 (?) Was Mrs Lee with us at the pub last night?      (?) Was I rude to Stephanie yesterday?
- (✓) They were at the office yesterday evening.      4. (✓) We were in Finland in 2013.  
 (✗) They weren't at the office yesterday evening.      (✗) We weren't in Finland in 2013.  
 (?) Were they at the office yesterday evening?      (?) Were we in Finland in 2013?

### 5. Look at the pictures. Write questions using the Past Simple of the verb "be" and the prompts. Then, answer them.



- Was Bob Marley a singer?
- Yes, he was.



- Was the Concorde a car?
- No, it wasn't.



- Was Pablo Picasso an architect?
- No, he wasn't.



- Were Laurel and Hardy comedians?
- Yes, they were.



- Was Elizabeth Taylor an actress?
- Yes, she was.



- Were Dior and Chanel models?
- No, they weren't.

### 6. Write questions using the Past Simple of the verb "be" and the prompts. Then, answer them about yourself.

- a good student in high school      - Were you a good student in high school?      - Yes, I was. / No, I wasn't.
- at the cinema last Saturday      - Were you at the cinema last Saturday?      - (Students' own answers)
- athletic when you were young      - Were you athletic when you were young?      - \_\_\_\_\_
- at the pool yesterday afternoon      - Were you at the pool yesterday afternoon?      - \_\_\_\_\_



## Used to (✓)

We can also use **used to** to talk about **past habits** and **states**.

### Affirmative (✓)

I		
you		
he/she/it	used to	clean
we		
you		
they		

Blake **used to do** martial arts in the 90s.  
I **used to like** opera. Now, I prefer jazz.

## 7. Complete with "used to" (✓) and the verbs in brackets.

- In the 70s, I **used to write** (write) letters to everyone.
- In the past, my wife **used to dislike** (dislike) camping.
- When you were children, you **used to play** (play) board games.
- Roy **used to be** (be) my colleague but he works for another company now.
- When I was a student, I **used to buy** (buy) about six fashion magazines a month.
- Years ago, Katie and Gail **used to talk** (talk) on the phone every day.

## 8. Change the words/phrases in bold using the Past Simple or "used to" (✓).

- In the past, my dad **dressed up** as a cowboy at Halloween.
- I **used to be** best friends with Mrs Woods.
- When we were teenagers, Violet and I **danced** a lot.
- My husband **used to cook** spaghetti at weekends.
- In the 80s, people **used to chat** on the phone, not online.
- Erin **was** an athlete before her accident.

**used to dress up**  
**was**  
**used to dance**  
**cooked**  
**chatted**  
**used to be**

## 9. Read the article and complete with the Present Simple or Past Simple (✓) of the verbs in brackets.

# Fashion is back

People say that fashion never stays the same. However, not all styles are brand new, as fashion often <sup>1</sup> **comes** (come) round again! We asked four people of different ages about their present or past style. Their answers were really interesting:



Magda, 68

"In my 20s, I <sup>2</sup> **was** (be) a hippie. Back then, we all agreed that those colourful ethnic trousers <sup>3</sup> **looked** (look) fantastic. I can't believe I used to put on those silly clothes every day. I <sup>4</sup> **hate** (hate) them now."

"I always <sup>5</sup> **feel** (feel) great when I put on an ethnic top with flower patterns or a colourful skirt. This style simply <sup>6</sup> **makes** (make) me happy and it's fashionable, too!"

Amanda, 26



Jacob, 82

"When I was young, I used to wear a suit and tie all the time. Everyone <sup>7</sup> **dressed** (dress) formally in those days. Today, people <sup>8</sup> **go** (go) to work in their jeans. I think that's wonderful."

"Even when I was a child, I <sup>9</sup> **loved** (love) formal outfits. When I wear a suit, I feel like a real gentleman. Also, in my opinion, suits <sup>10</sup> **are** (be) quite practical."

Tommy, 34



# PROGRESS CHECK

9

Read and circle the correct option.

/ 20







1. - You ..... late yesterday! - I'm sorry.  
☒ A. were  
B. was  
C. weren't
2. I was really tired ....., so I stayed at home.  
A. a night ago  
B. yesterday at night  
☒ C. last night
3. We really ..... our holidays on the Greek islands in 2015.  
A. enjoy  
☒ B. enjoyed  
C. are enjoying
4. - ..... Victoria at the wedding? - I'm afraid not.  
A. Were  
☒ B. Was  
C. Weren't
5. In 2010, Laura Dekker, a 14-year-old girl, ..... around the world alone.  
☒ A. travelled  
B. travels  
C. she travelled
6. - Were you in the same class as Vanessa Wilson at school? - No, I .....  
A. weren't  
B. was  
☒ C. wasn't
7. - Do you do any sports?  
- No, but I used to ..... when I was younger.  
☒ A. jog  
B. jogged  
C. jogging
8. Those shoes are nice. .... expensive?  
A. Was it  
☒ B. Were they  
C. They were
9. We ..... out of shape but now, we work out every day.  
A. use to be  
☒ B. used to be  
C. used to were
10. Elliot is in Canada now but he ..... in Mexico a week ago.  
☒ A. was  
B. were  
C. is
11. I joined a gym .....  
A. last morning  
☒ B. yesterday morning  
C. a morning ago
12. We ..... happy with our hotel room because it was dirty.  
A. was  
B. were  
☒ C. weren't
13. My grandparents ..... five miles to get to school.  
A. use to walk  
B. used to walked  
☒ C. used to walk
14. It ..... a bank holiday yesterday, so all the shops were open.  
☒ A. wasn't  
B. weren't  
C. was
15. When I was little, I often ..... my mother's clothes.  
A. use to try on  
B. try on  
☒ C. tried on
16. He ..... all the details for his trip to Hawaii last year.  
A. plan  
B. planed  
☒ C. planned
17. When my sister was sad, my dad ..... her up with a big ice cream.  
☒ A. used to cheer  
B. use to cheer  
C. used to cheered
18. The accident happened .....  
☒ A. a year ago  
B. the last year  
C. ago a year
19. I ..... the doctor yesterday but he wasn't in his office.  
A. call  
☒ B. called  
C. used to call
20. My friends ..... to buy me a laptop for my birthday.  
A. promises  
☒ B. promised  
C. used

# EXTRA PRACTICE

## 1. Complete with the Present Continuous (✓ - X - ?) of the verbs in brackets.

- We 're looking for ..... (look for)  
Mr Brian Foster. Is he here?
- I 'm setting ..... (set) the table.  
Hurry up!
- Are they discussing ..... (they / discuss)  
the problem with their boss?
- Sophie isn't having ..... (not have)  
a bath. She's still in bed.
- Is their train arriving ..... (their train / arrive) now?
- Are you waiting ..... (you / wait)  
for Dr Ross?
- They aren't exiting ..... (exit)  
the building at the moment.
- Roger 's sending ..... (send)  
an email to his colleague.

## 2. Look at the pictures and write sentences using the prompts and the Present Continuous (✓ - X).

1		dust / vacuum	Carla <u>isn't vacuuming.</u> <u>She's dusting.</u>
2		nap / work out	I <u>'m not napping.</u> <u>I'm working out.</u>
3		dance / play the guitar	They <u>aren't dancing.</u> <u>They're playing the guitar.</u>
4		surf / swim	We <u>aren't surfing.</u> <u>We're swimming.</u>
5		stand / sit	Morgan <u>isn't sitting.</u> <u>He's standing.</u>
6		sleep / eat	The koala <u>isn't eating.</u> <u>It's sleeping.</u>

## 3. Read the questions and answer them about yourself.

- Are you listening to music?  
Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
- Are your parents doing chores?  
(Students' own answers)
- Is your teacher writing on the board?
- Are you drinking coffee?
- Are you studying for a test?
- Is your best friend working?

## 4. Write questions using the prompts and the Present Continuous. Then, match with the answers.

- |                                  |  |          |                        |
|----------------------------------|--|----------|------------------------|
| 1. who / cry                     | <u>Who is crying?</u>                    | <u>d</u> | a. To the supermarket. |
| 2. which jacket / she / wear     | <u>Which jacket is she wearing?</u>      | <u>c</u> | b. Their mother.       |
| 3. what / Mr Jacobs / read       | <u>What is Mr Jacobs reading?</u>        | <u>e</u> | c. The blue one.       |
| 4. where / we / go               | <u>Where are we going?</u>               | <u>a</u> | <u>d</u> The baby is.  |
| 5. why / you / watch this video  | <u>Why are you watching this video?</u>  | <u>f</u> | e. His notes.          |
| 6. who / Ted and Annie / talk to | <u>Who are Ted and Annie talking to?</u> | <u>b</u> | f. Because it's funny. |



# EXTRA PRACTICE

## 1. Complete the sentences with the Past Simple (✓) of the verbs in the box.

die  
tidy  
copy  
hug  
~~stop~~  
prefer  
stay  
rain

- Yesterday, I stopped at a café for a quick espresso.
- The kids hugged their father before leaving.
- Constantine tidied his bedroom an hour ago.
- They preferred the green sofa because it was cheaper.
- Brooke and I stayed at a wonderful hotel last weekend.
- The weather's fine now but last month, it rained a lot.
- You copied the files from your PC to your external hard drive, right?
- Mrs Jenkins died a year ago, at the age of 104.

## 2. Look at the pictures and write sentences using the prompts and the Past Simple (✓ - X) of the verb "be".

1



at the office / at the park

Yesterday, Fiona wasn't  
at the park. She was  
at the office.

2



married / single

In 1996, I wasn't single.  
I was married.

3



in Berlin / in London

Last month, they weren't  
in Berlin. They were in  
London.

4



a pianist / a guitarist

Jimi Hendrix wasn't a  
pianist. He was a guitarist.

5



at home / at the pub

Last night, we weren't at  
the pub. We were at home.

6



a teacher / a tour guide

In 2005, you weren't a  
teacher. You were a tour  
guide.

## 3. Rewrite in the Past Simple.

- He walks me home in the evening.  
He walked me home yesterday evening.
- Joy celebrates her birthday at the club.  
Joy celebrated her birthday at the club last Tuesday.
- This test is very difficult.  
That test was very difficult.
- I wait half an hour for you every day.  
I waited half an hour for you yesterday.
- Are you and Dave in Mr Frost's office now?  
Were you and Dave in Mr Frost's office ten minutes ago?
- Maggie and I paint our flat once a year.  
Maggie and I painted our flat last year.

## 4. Read and circle the correct option(s).

- When they were young, they loved / used to love rock and roll music.
- Yesterday morning, I used to play / played tennis with my boss.
- You used to be / were a huge fan of the Backstreet Boys in the 90s!
- Mrs Collins introduced / used to introduce me to Donna last week.
- Jack used to reply / replied to my email two days ago.
- We dressed / used to dress like hippies when we were teenagers.