

Continuous Tense

Hello and welcome back, in this lesson we will be exploring the **Continuous Tense**.

We will see what types of words are effected and what we need to change!

Certain words such as '**verbs**' are effected by the time in which the action took place.

These times are called **tenses**.

We have three main tenses in English.



Past



Present (NOW)



Future

Verbs are effected by the tense.

What is a **verb** again?

A verb shows an action or a state of being.

Here are some examples:



Run



Sleep



Smell



Feel



Play



Watch

Let's use these in a sentence:

I **run** to school.

I **sleep** at night.

I **smell** flowers.

I **feel** good.

I **play** football.

I **watch** television.

These are all the actions within the sentence.

These verbs are used in the '**present tense**' these actions are happening now!

The only rule with present tense is that if the subject is **he/she/it** then an '**S**' is added to the end of the verb.

Verb + (s) = Verb(s)

I run he runs

I swim she swims

I walk it walks

Continuous tenses

The continuous tense is effected by the past, present and the future.
Therefore we get a past continuous, present continuous and future continuous.



So what is the continuous tense?

When an action is in progress, then it is a continuous tense.
We add (ing) to the end of the verb to show the action is ongoing.
On most verbs we double the last letter before adding (ing).

Verb + ing = verb(ing)

Run + n + ing = running

Present continuous:

If an activity is in progress at the moment of speaking, then it is the present continuous.



We also need the correct 'be verbs' in front of the action verb.



I **am** running.



He **is** swimming.



She **is** talking.



It **is** walking.



We **are** flying.



They **are** playing.

Past continuous:

If one act was in progress when another act occurred, then is the past continuous.

As it is in the past we need to change the 'be verbs' to the past form.



So the past of the 'be' verbs?

Present

Am

Are

Is

Past

was

were

was

Examples:



I **was** running.



He **was** swimming.



She **was** talking.



It **was** walking.



We **were** flying.



They **were** playing.

Future continuous:

If an activity will be in progress at a time in the future, then we use the future continuous tense.

As it is in the future we need to change the 'be verbs' to the future form.

This remains 'will be' for all subjects.



I **will be** running.



He **will be** swimming.



She **will be** talking.



It **will be** walking.



We **will be** flying.



They **will be** playing.

		Simple	Continuous
Tense	Present	verb (s)	am/is/are + verb + ing
	Past	verb + ed	was/were + verb + ing
	Future	will + verb	will + be + verb + ing