

New Round-Up

6

English Grammar Practice

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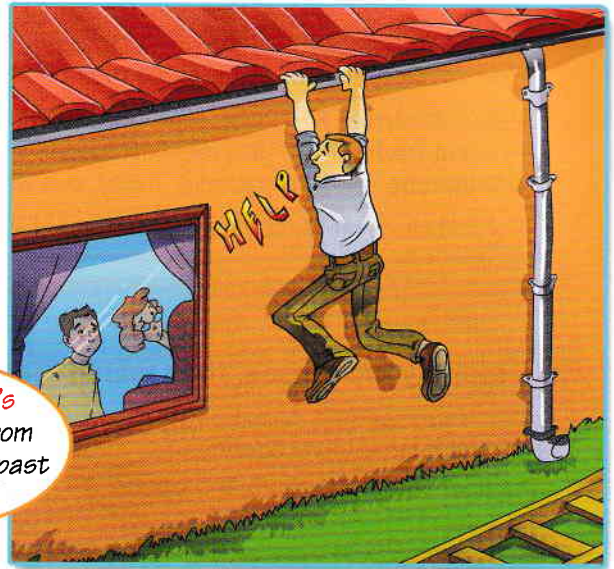


Listen and repeat. Then act out.

Mum, come quickly, I've **knocked** over the ladder in the garden.

I'm **reading** my book now, dear. Go and tell your father.

He **knows**. He's **been hanging** from the roof for the past five minutes.



Present Simple

is used:

- for permanent situations or states. *He **works** in a hospital.*
- for general truths and laws of nature. *Water **boils** at 100°C.*
- for repeated/habitual actions (especially with adverbs of frequency: often, usually, always, etc.). *He **always does** his homework. (Here 'always' means every day.)*
- for reviews/sports commentaries/narrations. *José Carreras **sings** wonderfully in this recording.*
- for timetables/programmes (future meaning). *The race **starts** at 3:00 pm.*
- in exclamatory sentences. *Here **comes** the bride!*

Present Continuous

is used for:

- temporary situations. *She **is working** in Paris this week.*
- changing or developing situations. *Johnny **is getting** taller and taller.*
- frequently repeated actions with always, constantly, continually, etc. expressing annoyance or criticism. *He's **always asking** stupid questions. (Here 'always' means constantly.)*
- actions happening at or around the moment of speaking. *The baby **is sleeping** at the moment.*
- fixed arrangements in the near future. *I'm **seeing** Rachel tonight.*

Present Perfect

is used for:

- recently completed actions and whose results are visible in the present. *He **has cut** the grass. (We can see the grass is now cut.)*
- actions that started in the past and continue up to the present with stative verbs such as be, have, like, know, etc. In this case we often use *for* or *since*. *Mrs Jones **has been** a secretary for ten years.*
- experiences *She **has tried** windsurfing.*
- actions which happened within a specific time period which is not over at the time of speaking. We use expressions such as *today, this morning/evening/ week/month, etc.* *He **has read** three novels this week. (The time period – this week – is not over yet. He may read another.)*

Present Perfect Continuous

is used:

- for actions that started in the past and continue up to the present. *He **has been washing** his bike for an hour. (He started an hour ago and he's still washing it.)*
- for past actions of certain duration having visible results or effects in the present. *He **has been fighting**. That's why he's got a black eye.*
- to express anger, irritation, annoyance *Someone **has been using** my laptop. (annoyance)*
- Present Perfect Continuous is normally used with *for, since* or *how long* to put emphasis on duration. *She **has been waiting** since 4 o'clock.*

Time expressions used with:

Present Simple	every day/week/month/year, usually, sometimes, always, rarely, never, often, in the morning/evening/afternoon, at night, on Mondays, etc.
Present Continuous	now, at the moment, at present, nowadays, today, tonight, always, still, etc.
Present Perfect & Present Perfect Continuous	just, ever, never, already, yet (negations & questions), always, how long, so far, recently, since (= from a starting point in the past), for (= over a period of time), today, this week/month, etc.

For and **since** are usually used with **Present Perfect Continuous** to emphasise the duration of an action.

1 Identify the tenses, then match them with the correct description.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 He runs a large travel agency.</p> <p>2 The thief enters the room and opens the safe.</p> <p>3 He has cleared out the garage.</p> <p>4 She's been practising that song for hours.</p> <p>5 He's working hard these days.</p> <p>6 He's gained a lot of weight recently.</p> <p>7 Tom's picking me up at 7 o'clock tonight.</p> <p>8 He's such a boring man who's always making a fuss about nothing.</p> <p>9 The ferry arrives at 10:00 am.</p> <p>10 You feel dizzy because you've been lying in the sun for too long!</p> | <p>a actions taking place at or around the moment of speaking; temporary situations</p> <p>b emphasis on duration of an action which began in the past and continues up to the present</p> <p>c reviews/sports commentaries/dramatic narratives</p> <p>d past actions of a certain duration having visible results/effects in the present</p> <p>e fixed arrangements in the near future</p> <p>f timetables/programmes (future meaning)</p> <p>g permanent situations or states</p> <p>h recently completed actions</p> <p>i personal experiences or changes which have happened</p> <p>j frequently repeated actions with 'always' expressing the speaker's annoyance or criticism</p> |
|--|--|

2 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present forms.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I 1) *am writing* **(write)** on behalf of Midfield School. Every year, our students 2) **(choose)** to do a project on an environmental problem. Then, they 3) **(work)** to raise money to help solve this problem. We 4) **(recently/see)** your advertisements about protecting dolphins, so for the last few weeks we 5) **(try)** to learn about the dolphins that 6) **(live)** in the sea near our school. We 7) **(already/be)** on two boat trips and 8) **(persuade)** local fishermen to change their fishing nets because the ones they 9) **(use)** at the moment can trap dolphins. Could you please send the children some World Wildlife Fund posters to add to the presentations that they 10) **(do)** so far?

Yours faithfully,
J. Hopkins (Teacher)

3 Put the verbs in brackets in the correct present forms.

Dear Sal,

You'll never guess where I 1) *am writing* (write) from. I 2) (sit) in the garden of a hotel overlooking Lake Windermere. It's so good to get away. We 3) (stay) here for nearly a week now. Every morning I 4) (get up) at 7 o'clock and I 5) (go) for a swim in the lake before breakfast. Since we arrived, we 6) (do) a lot of sightseeing but we 7) (not/visit) the castle yet. We 8) (watch) the boats coming and going all morning and the owner of the hotel 9) (just/suggest) that we take a boat trip this afternoon. There is a boat that 10) (leave) at 2 o'clock that we can take to cross the lake to Wray Castle – it sounds like fun. We 11) (travel) to Scotland this weekend to visit relatives and then we 12) (return) to London next week. What 13) (you/do) in Devon since you got there? Email me soon and tell me your news.

Mary

Stative Verbs

Stative verbs express a permanent state and don't usually have continuous forms. These are:

- verbs of the senses** (to express involuntary actions): *feel, hear, see, smell, taste, etc.* (Can or could are often used with these verbs. *Turn the radio down, please. I can't hear you.*) *Look, watch and listen* express deliberate actions and can be used in continuous forms. *John is watching* a football match on TV. *Feel and hurt* can be used in either continuous or simple forms. *John feels/is feeling* worse today.
- verbs of feelings and emotions**: *adore, appreciate (= value), detest, dislike, enjoy, forgive, hate, like, loathe, etc.* *He hates* the show they are watching on TV now. (NOT: ~~He is hating~~)
- verbs of opinion**: *agree, believe, expect (= think), see (= understand), suppose, understand, etc.* *I believe* he is innocent. (NOT: ~~I am believing~~)
- other verbs**: *appear (= seem), belong, concern, contain, depend, fit (= be the right shape and size for sth), have (= possess), know, mean, owe, own, possess, need, prefer, require, want, weigh, (= have the weight of), wish, keep (= continue), seem, etc.* *He wants* some more biscuits. (NOT: ~~He is wanting~~)

Some stative verbs have continuous forms but with a difference in meaning:

State	Action
<i>He thinks</i> he's really clever. (= he believes)	<i>I'm thinking</i> about his offer. (= I'm considering)
<i>This tastes</i> salty. (= It has the flavour)	<i>Why is he tasting</i> the soup? (= testing the flavour)
<i>He has</i> two houses. (= he owns; he possesses)	<i>She's having</i> lunch. (= she's eating)
<i>The silk shirt feels</i> soft. (= it has a soft texture)	<i>Ann is feeling</i> the cat's fur. (= she's touching)
<i>Do you see</i> what I mean? (= understand)	<i>I'm seeing</i> Paula tonight. (= I'm meeting)
<i>Your perfume smells</i> of apples. (= it has the smell)	<i>She is smelling</i> the roses. (= she's sniffing)
<i>I love/enjoy</i> good films. (= I like in general)	<i>I'm loving/enjoying</i> this film. (= I like specifically)
<i>It looks</i> as if it's going to rain. (= it appears)	<i>He is looking</i> at the painting. (= he's observing it)
<i>He appears</i> to be working. (= he seems to be)	<i>The singer is appearing</i> on stage tonight. (= is performing)
<i>The box is heavy. It weighs</i> a lot. (= has the weight of)	<i>He is weighing</i> the potatoes. (= is measuring the weight of)

Certain adjectives can be used with **be** in the continuous form to express a temporary characteristic. These are: *careful, foolish, kind, lazy, nice, (im)patient, (im)polite, rude, silly, etc.*
*John is usually careful, but today he's **being** careless. You're **being** very foolish.* (normally used as a warning)

4 Fill in with the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

- 1 A: I ... *am thinking* ... (**think**) about visiting Jane this afternoon.
 B: I wouldn't bother. I ... (**think**) she's away on holiday.
- 2 A: Mr Jones ... (**have**) a telephone message from his wife.
 B: Can it wait? He ... (**have**) a business meeting and I don't want to disturb him.
- 3 A: The police ... (**still/look**) for fingerprints.
 B: It ... (**look**) as if they won't find the criminal.
- 4 A: Why ... (**you/taste**) the soup? Is there anything wrong with it?
 B: Yes, it ... (**taste**) too sweet. I think you've used sugar instead of salt.
- 5 A: Why ... (**you/feel**) the baby's forehead, Mum?
 B: I think she's got a temperature. She ... (**feel**) rather hot.
- 6 A: I ... (**see**) my boss about a pay rise this afternoon.
 B: I ... (**see**). That's why you're wearing a suit and tie.
- 7 A: Why ... (**you/smell**) the inside of your car?
 B: Because it ... (**smell**) of petrol and I want to check for leaks.

5 Underline the correct item.

- 1 John is / **is being** usually rude, but today he **is** / is being polite to his colleagues.
- 2 Ann **is** / **is being** usually patient, but today she **is** / **is being** impatient.
- 3 Sam **is** / **is being** rude to his mother now, but he **is** / **is being** normally pleasant to her.
- 4 Peter **is** / **is being** a kind man, but at the moment he **is** / **is being** selfish.
- 5 Julie **is** / **is being** silly at the moment, although I know she **is** / **is being** really very sensible.

6 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

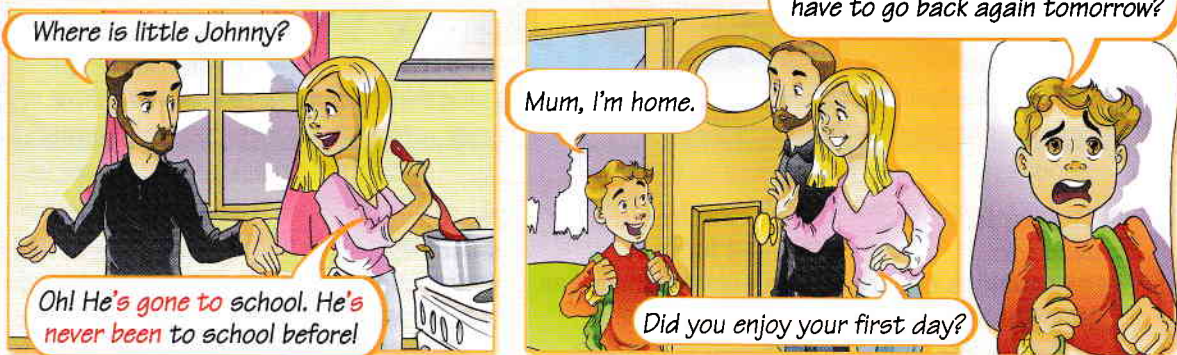
- Mark: Hi Ann! What 1) ... *are you doing* ... (**you/do**) at the moment?
- Ann: Hello Mark! I 2) ... (**try**) to finish my project, but my little brother 3) ... (**keep**) interrupting me.
- Mark: Oh really?
- Ann: Yes, he 4) ... (**always/ask**) me to help him with his homework!
 I 5) ... (**get**) tired of it.
- Mark: I see. Look, a few of us 6) ... (**meet**) at Café Nora for coffee later.
 7) ... (**you/want**) to join us?
- Ann: Well, my dance class 8) ... (**start**) at 8 o'clock. What time 9) ... (**you/go**) to the café?
- Mark: About 6 o'clock.
- Ann: That's great! My class is nearby and I certainly 10) ... (**need**) a break. See you at six.

7 Fill in: *yet, already, since, how long or ever.*

- I don't think Frank has ... *ever* ... been to a live concert.
- I haven't seen Louise Jeff's wedding last year.
- I don't know Jack's been working on that project, but it seems like weeks.
- Mr Louis hasn't rung me back about the contract
- Pam has finished her test and I've only done half of mine.

3 Listen and repeat. Then act out.

Have gone to / Have been to / Have been in



She **has gone to** Madrid. (= She's on her way to Madrid or she's there. She hasn't come back yet.)
 She **has been to** Paris once. (= She has visited Paris; she is not there now. She has come back.)
 She **has been in** Berlin for two years. (= She lives in Berlin now.)

8 Fill in: *has/have gone to, has/have been to/in* in the correct form.

- I ... *have been to* ... New York several times, but I ... *haven't been to* ... Atlanta.
- My boss Lisbon for a week, so I'm doing some of his work for him.
- We Milan for very long, so we don't know it very well yet.
- Martin isn't here. He the library to get some books.
- I that gallery twice but I haven't seen the painting you mentioned.

9 Fill in with the *present perfect* or the *present perfect continuous*.

Hi Sam,

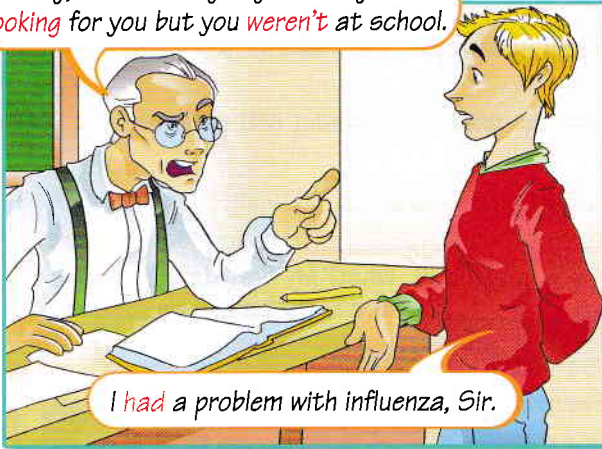
How are things? I 1) ... *haven't heard* ... (not/hear) from you in a while. What 2) (you/be) up to these past few weeks? 3) (you/finish) your exams yet? Mine start next week and I'm already nervous. Even though I 4) (study) pretty hard since May, it still feels like I have a lot to learn. Oh! Guess what! I 5) (change) my mind about getting a job when I leave school. I 6) (decide) that I want to go to university and study veterinary science instead. Everyone's really surprised, but I 7) (think) about it for a while. As you know, I 8) (work) as a volunteer at an animal shelter for the past two years and I 9) (realise) that helping animals is what I want to do with my life. What about you? 10) (you/think) any more about coming to visit me in August?

Brigitte



Listen and repeat. Then act out.

Johnny, where **were** you yesterday? I **was** looking for you but you **weren't** at school.



I **had** a problem with influenza, Sir.

Oh! I **didn't** know you **had** been ill.



Oh, no! I **had been trying** to spell it for so long that I **was** too tired to come to school.

Past Simple

is used for:

- past actions that took place immediately one after the other.
*He **got in** the car, **started** the engine and **drove** off.*
- past habits or states which are now finished. In such cases, we can also use the expression **used to**.
*When he was young, he **rode/used to ride** his bike to school.*
- a complete action or event which happened at a stated time in the past.
*She **passed** her exam **last week**. (When? "Last week" – stated time in the past)*
- complete past actions not connected to the present with a stated or implied time reference
*Elvis Presley **made** lots of records. (Elvis is dead; he won't record any more – period of time now finished – implied time reference)*

Past Continuous

is used for:

- an action which was in progress at a stated time in the past. We do not know when the action started or finished.
*At 1 o'clock this afternoon they **were having** coffee.*
- a past action which was in progress when another action interrupted it.
*I **was playing** football when I broke my ankle. (The action in progress – **was playing** (Past Continuous) – was interrupted by another action – **broke**. Past Simple)*
- two or more actions which were happening at the same time in the past (simultaneous actions).
*He **was cooking** while she **was sleeping**.*
- background description to events in a story/description.
*They **were travelling** to Swansea ...*

Past Perfect

is used for:

- an action which happened before another past action or before a stated time in the past.
*She **had** already **cooked** dinner when her husband came home. (She cooked dinner first and then her husband came.)*
- an action which finished in the past and whose result was visible in the past.
*When I saw Steve yesterday he **was** happy because he **had found** a new job.*
- The Past Perfect is the past equivalent of the Present Perfect.
*There was no pudding left; he **had eaten** it all. (Present perfect: There's no pudding left; he has eaten it all.)*

Past Perfect Continuous

is used:

- for an action of certain duration continuing up to a specific time in the past.
*She **had been trying** to get a visa for months before she gave up.*
- for a past action which lasted for some time in the past and whose result was visible in the past.
*Her fingers ached because she **had been playing** the guitar all day.*
- The Past Perfect Continuous is the past equivalent of the Present Perfect Continuous.
*He **had been feeling** ill all week. (Present perfect: He's staying in bed today because he's been feeling ill all week.)*

Time expressions used with:

Past Simple	yesterday, last week, etc, (how long) ago, then, just now, when, in 1992, etc.
Past Continuous	while, when, as, the moment that, etc.
Past Perfect	for, since, already, after, just, never, yet, before, by, by the time, etc.
Past Perfect Continuous	for, since

10 Identify the tenses, then match them with the correct description.

- 1 She **opened** the cupboard, **took out** a dress and **put it on**.
- 2 She was upset because she **had been waiting** to hear from her son for days.
- 3 They **were** still **discussing** the plan at midnight.
- 4 They **were flying** over the Andes when the storm began.
- 5 Tom **was reading out** the text while Sara was **writing it down**.
- 6 She **had finished** most of the work by the time her boss arrived.
- 7 He always **went** to work by train.
- 8 We **had been living** in the same house for twelve years before we decided to move.

- a past action in progress interrupted by another past action
- b past action which occurred before another action or before a stated time in the past
- c two or more simultaneous past actions
- d action continuing over a period up to a specific time in the past
- e past actions which happened immediately one after the other
- f past action of a certain duration which had visible results in the past
- g past habit or state
- h action in the middle of happening at a stated past time

11 Fill in with the past simple or the past continuous.

Simon 1) *...was walking...* (walk) home from work the other day when he 2) (notice) something shining on the other side of the road. A car 3) (come) down the street, so he waited until it had driven past. Then he 4) (cross) over. When he 5) (get) to the other side, he saw that there was a shiny gold coin on the road! He 6) (look) around to make sure no one 7) (watch) him. Then, he 8) (bend) down to pick it up. Imagine his surprise when he 9) (not/can) move it! He 10) (be) just about to give up when he 11) (hear) a strange sound behind him. Someone 12) (laugh) at him, but he couldn't see who it 13) (be). Two little boys 14) (hide) behind a hedge, laughing at anyone who tried to pick up the coin they had stuck to the road with glue!





Titanic HITS Iceberg

In 1912, a passenger steamship called the *Titanic* 1) *was sailing*... (sail) across the Atlantic Ocean from England to America. A bright moon 2)

..... (shine) and a gentle breeze 3) (blow). The ship 4) (sail) for four days and was now more than halfway towards its destination – New York City. Some passengers 5) (sleep) in their cabins while others 6) (relax) on deck, when suddenly they all 7) (hear) a loud bang. Those sitting on deck 8) (jump up), 9) (run) to the railing of the ship, and 10) (look) over the side. To their horror, they saw that they 11) (hit) an iceberg which 12) (tear) a hole in the side of the ship. Water was pouring into the ship at an alarming rate. There were not enough lifeboats on the ship and tragically more than 1,500 people lost their lives that night. The sinking of the *Titanic* remains the most infamous sea disaster in history.

13 Which of the past forms in the text (1–12) above are used to express:

- 1 past action of certain duration continuing up to a specific time in the past 4
- 2 background description of events in the story
- 3 shorter actions which interrupt longer actions
- 4 past action which occurred before another past action
- 5 past actions which happened one immediately after the other
- 6 past actions which were happening at the same time in the past

14 Underline the correct time expression.

- 1 I still/yet/just hadn't done my homework when Mum came home.
- 2 Meg was lying in the sun before/while/as soon as the children were playing in the pool.
- 3 How long ago/How long/While did you pass your driving test?
- 4 He continued his journey before/after/yet he had changed the tyre.
- 5 She had been singing for years since/for/before she finally became a star.
- 6 Our team had scored three goals by the time/until/while we got to the match.
- 7 The professor didn't start speaking after/until/yet everyone was quiet.
- 8 She took off her coat just/as soon as/already she entered the house.