



Paco:

Paco is wearing a new suit

The Present Continuous Tense

Positive:

Subject + Present “to be” + Present Participle (-ing)

Negative:

Subject + Present “to be” + NOT + Present Participle (-ing)



The Present Continuous Tense

Used to talk about:

- * actions happening at the moment of speaking.
 - Paco is wearing a new suit.
- * actions happening in a period around the present moment in time.
 - Thomas's cousin is staying with them these days.
- * future plans and arrangements.
 - Andrés is meeting Paco next Saturday evening.
- * trends or changes.
 - Paco thinks English is becoming harder and harder.
- * repeated actions which are irritating to the speaker.
 - "Sonia, you're always speaking on the phone", said Paco.



Stative vs. dynamic verbs

Stative verbs

- * describe a state or condition rather than an action
- * are not used in continuous tenses

have (possession), know, like, understand...

Dynamic verbs

- * describe actions
- * can be used in continuous tenses

have (take), go, write, play...

Present Simple vs. Present Continuous

| Present Simple |
|---|
| habits / routines |
| likes, dislikes |
| permanent situations / repeated actions |
| scheduled events |
| things which are always or generally true |

| Present Continuous |
|---|
| actions happening at the moment of speaking |
| temporary or developing actions |
| trends or changes |
| future plans or arrangements |
| complains (<i>always, constantly...</i>) |

Third person singular –s:

Voiced sound + (e)s: **/z/** (voiced) **e.g. knows**

Voiceless sound + (e)s: **/s/** (voiceless) **e.g. starts**

/s/, sh /ʃ/, ch /tʃ/, /z/, /dʒ/ + -es: **/ɪz/** **e.g. washes**

Spanish vs. English

Sometimes actions occurring at the moment of speaking:

Spanish: Presente de indicativo (*Lleva un traje nuevo*)

English: Present Continuous or Progressive (*He is wearing a new suit*)

Future plans or arrangements:

Spanish: Futuro simple / Presente de indicativo (*Mañana me reúno con el Director del banco*).

English: Present Continuous (*I'm meeting the bank manager tomorrow*).