

## IN1 - Tema 1.3: Paco: Paco is wearing a new suit



Paco: Paco is wearing a new suit

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### Inglés

1.º Bachillerato

Contenidos

Paco

Paco is wearing a suit

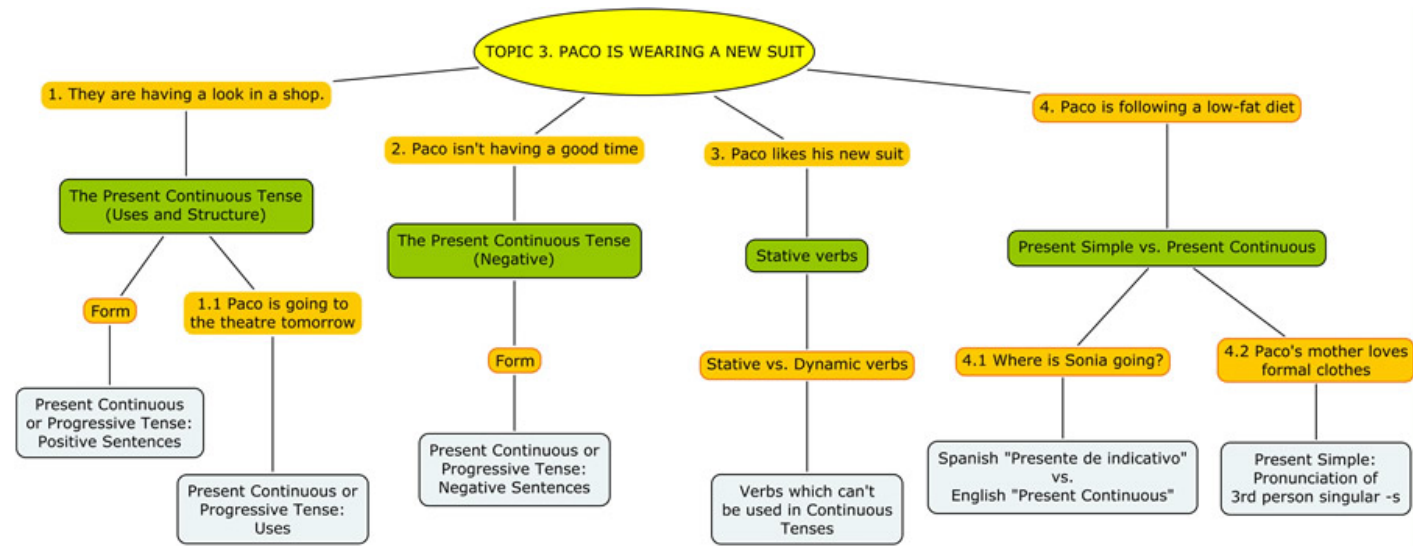


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# Map



*Imagen de elaboración propia*



## Fuentes para el profesorado

Descarga del archivo CMAP

- [Archivo fuente del mapa conceptual \(Ventana nueva\)](#)

# Introducción

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In this topic, we will study another easy English tense, the Present Continuous or Progressive. After knowing and practising its form and main uses, we will compare it with the Present Simple. We will also see how some Spanish actions are normally said in Presente de Indicativo whereas in English we need the Present Continuous, since we refer to actions that are occurring at the moment of speaking. Finally, we will remember how to pronounce the third person singular -s of the Present Simple tense.



## Paco is wearing a new suit



Paco loves wearing informal clothes. But he has to abandon his usual leisure wear for one day, because today is a special day. He has an appointment with the manager of an important bank. He intends to deposit his money in the most suitable one. In these cases, the personal image is quite important, so he decides to go shopping and buy a new suit. His sister Sonia and his mother go with him.

They are having a look in a shop. Sonia is helping her brother to choose a nice suit. She is looking for vivid colours and modern clothes. However, Paco's mother is bringing him formal suits to try on.

Paco isn't enjoying himself much. In fact, he is suffering because he doesn't like going shopping. In spite of that, they are having a good time.



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Can you identify the verbs in the present continuous (or present progressive) tense?



Paco loves wearing informal clothes. But he has to abandon his usual leisure wear for one day, because today is a special day. He has an appointment with the manager of an important bank. He intends to deposit his money in the most suitable one. In these cases, the personal image is quite important, so he decides to go shopping and buy a new suit. His sister Sonia and his mother go with him.

They **are having** a look in a shop. Sonia **is helping** her brother to choose a nice suit. She **is looking** for vivid colours and modern clothes. However, Paco's mother **is bringing him** formal suits to try on.

Paco **isn't enjoying** himself much. In fact, he **is suffering** because he doesn't like going shopping. In spite of that, they **are having** a good time.



**Comprueba lo aprendido**

**Say if the following sentences are true or false.**

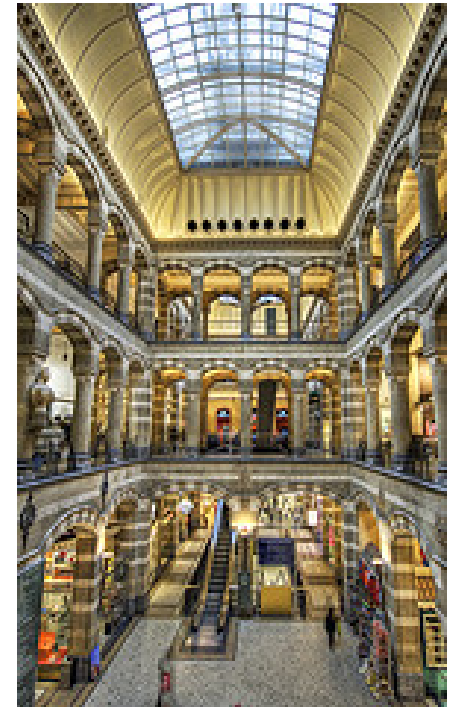


Imagen de Trey Ratcliff en [Flickr](#)

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Paco is keen on formal clothes.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

**Falso**

Paco loves wearing informal clothes.

Paco is meeting a General Manager of a bank.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

**Verdadero**

He has an appointment with a General Manager of a bank.

Paco's mother likes informal clothes.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

**Falso**

Paco's mother is taking informal suits for him.

Paco is fond of going shopping.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

**Falso**

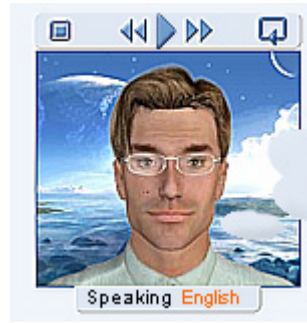
Paco doesn't like going shopping.



**Para saber más**

- 
- Remember to use the robot whenever you doubt how to pronounce a word.





<http://text-to-speech.imtranslator.net>

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Have you noticed how the Present Continuous or Progressive Tense is formed in English? Let's study it in detail!

# 1. They are having a look in a shop (present continuous)

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## Present Continuous Positive: Form

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Paco, Sonia and their mother are shopping around. However, Paco isn't worried about the price of the suits. Now, he has a lot of money thanks to the lottery. They are just looking for the best suit that fits him.

What tense do we use in English to refer to actions happening at the moment of speaking?



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Whenever we want to refer to actions that are occurring at the moment of speaking we use the **Present Continuous Tense** (also known as **Present Progressive**). As you can see, in the short passage above there are two sentences that are happening now (Paco, Sofía and their mother are shopping around / They are just looking for the best suit that fits him) and two sentences in the Present Simple Tense (Paco isn't worried about the price of the suits / He has a lot of money thanks to the lottery), which refer to permanent states.



## Ejercicio Resuelto

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Watch the following video about what the people in it are doing.

[Enlace a recurso reproducible >> http://www.youtube.com/embed/TA\\_CUY\\_EAoE](http://www.youtube.com/embed/TA_CUY_EAoE)

Video de [Mark Kulek](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).



## Importante

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### To Be + -ing

Notice in the previous passage the form of the present continuous

To be	Present Participle (-ing)
Paco <b>is</b>	shopping <b>ing</b> around
I <b>am</b>	looking <b>ing</b> for a new suit

We are

studying English at university

So, the form of the present continuous is very easy. However, the first thing you must remember is how to add suffix **-ing** to bare infinitives in order to form the present participle, which, by the way, has the same form as gerunds; that is to say, both the present participles and the gerunds of English verbs are formed in the same way: by adding -ing to the bare infinitive.

Click [here](#) >> Documento de descarga for the rules for forming the present participle and gerunds.



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Which of the following sentences are correct?

1.



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- ☐ Paco is buing tickets for the theatre.
- ☐ Paco is buying tickets for the theatre.

Wrong! We add -ing to bare infinitives (buy) to form present participles or gerunds (buy+ing).

That's it! We add -ing to bare infinitives (buy) to form present participles or gerunds (buy+ing).

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

2.

- ☐ Look! Hamlet is lieing on the floor.
- ☐ Look! Hamlet is lying on the floor.

Wrong! When a verb ends in -ie (lie), we have to change the -ie to y and add -ing to form the present participle or gerund (lie - ly+ing).

That's it! When a verb ends in -ie (lie), we have to change the -ie to y and add -ing to form the present participle or gerund (lie - ly+ing).

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

3.

- ☐ Paco's mother is panicking because she can't find a suit for him.

- ☐ Paco's mother is panicing because she can't find a suit for him.

That's it! When a verb ends in -c (panic), we add -k before adding -ing (panic - panick+ing).

Wrong! When a verb ends in -c (panic), we add -k before adding -ing (panic - panick+ing).

### Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

4.

- ☐ Paco's friends are comeing to the theatre with him.
- ☐ Paco's friends are coming to the theatre with him.

Wrong! When a verb ends in consonant +e (come), we remove the -e before adding -ing (come - com+ing).

That's it! When a verb ends in consonant +e (come), we remove the -e before adding -ing (come - com+ing).

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

5.

- ☐ Sofía is begining to be fed up with her brother.

- ☐ Sofía is beginning to be fed up with her brother.

Wrong! When a verb ends in consonant+vowel+consonant and the last syllable is stressed (begin), we double the final consonant before adding -ing (begin - beginn+ing).

That's it! When a verb ends in consonant+vowel+consonant and the last syllable is stressed (begin), we double the final consonant before adding -ing (begin - begin+ing).

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta



### Para saber más

- [Click here](#) to read about the Present Continuous or Progressive tense. Notice that you can also complete some exercises to improve not only its form, but also its uses, which we will see in the next section.



### Curiosidad

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To be or not to be...

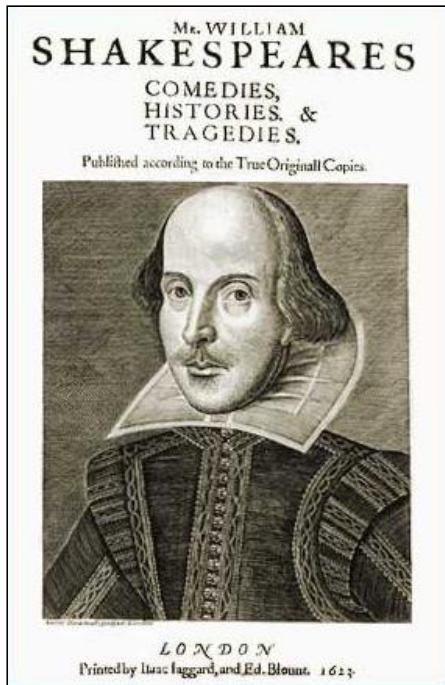


Imagen de [Anonymous](#)

Dominio público

Surely, this is not the first time you read or hear this sentence. It is pronounced by Prince Hamlet in [the play of the same name](#) (Act III, Scene i), by [William Shakespeare](#) (1564-1616), who is considered by many as the most important playwright in the history of Literature. These words have been repeated and repeated throughout history in lots of different languages and the play has been adapted lots of times. To say but one example, there are, at least, eleven film adaptations of the play, being the first one Hamlet, in 1920, and the latest, Hamlet A.D.D., in 2009.

Listen to this famous soliloquy by the Prince of Denmark (performed on this occasion by Kenneth Brannagh) paying attention to intonation and pronunciation. Don't worry if you don't understand every word of the soliloquy. If you want to read it at the time you listen to it, [click here](#).

## Hamlet Act3, Sce...



Kenneth Brannagh performing Prince Hamlet in *Hamlet* (1996)

One of Shakespeare's plays is being performed in The Great Theatre these days. Paco and his friends have bought the tickets and **they are going to the theatre tomorrow**.

As you can see, the sentence **they are going to the theatre tomorrow** is in the Present Continuous tense. However it does not refer to the moment of speaking. It refers to the future (tomorrow). Can you guess why? Let's study the main uses of the Present Continuous or Progressive tense in the following section!



## 1.1 Paco is going to the theatre tomorrow (Uses of the continuous)

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Importante

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### Present Continuous Tense: Uses



Vídeo de [pachoholguin](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).

The present continuous or progressive is then mainly used for actions that occur at the moment of speaking/now...



But apart from being used for actions happening at the moment of speaking, the present continuous is also used for:

1. **Actions happening in a period around the present moment in time** (not necessarily at the moment of speaking).

- Andrés's sister is driving his car this month.
- Paco is making a great effort to speak English properly.

2. **Future plans and arrangements** (frequently fixed plans in the near future).

- Paco and his friends are going to the theatre tomorrow
- Next weekend, Paco is playing tennis with Andrés.

3. **Trends** or changes.

- More and more people are using computers to listen to music.
- That child is getting bigger every day.
- Paco is getting used to wearing suits.

4. **Repeated actions which are irritating to the speaker** (normally with always, constantly...)

- Paco's mother is always coming late.
- Andrés is constantly telling Paco to study English.



Imagen de Joao Alves.en [Flickr](#)

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[Enlace a recurso reproducible >> http://www.youtube.com/embed/Zfxd0bxbtNc?feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/embed/Zfxd0bxbtNc?feature=player_embedded)

Vídeo de [Bluebloc Notes \(Aprender Inglés\)](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).

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**Para saber más**

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**Time expressions** give us a clue of the correct verb tense we must use. Here you have a useful chart concerning the **Present Continuous**:

### USES

**Actions happening in a period around the present moment in time** (not necessarily at the moment of speaking)

**Future plans and arrangements** (frequently fixed plans in the near future).

**Repeated actions which are irritating to the speaker**

### TIME EXPRESSIONS

(RIGHT) NOW, AT THE MOMENT, TODAY,  
THIS AFTERNOON, THIS MONTH...

TOMORROW, NEXT WEEK/MONTH, IN JULY...

ALWAYS, CONSTANTLY, REPEATEDLY...



## Ejercicio Resuelto

Read the sentences below and decide what they are used for:

a. Action occurring at the moment of speaking	1. Sonia is meeting her friends on Saturday.
b. Action happening around the present moment in time	2. Paco's brother is living with his girlfriend at the moment.
c. Future plan or arrangement	3. Andrés is watching a tennis match on TV
d. Trend	4. You're always complaining about how hard it is.
e. Repeated action which is irritating to the speaker	5. Look! That person is stealing a computer in the shop.
	6. People are using computers more and more often.

1. Sonia is meeting her friends on Saturday	c. Future plan or arrangement
2. Paco's brother is living with his girlfriend at the	b. Action happening around the present moment in

moment	time
3. Andrés is watching a tennis match on TV	a. Action occurring at the moment of speaking
4. You're always complaining about how hard it is	e. Repeated action which is irritating to the speaker
5. Look! That person is stealing a computer in the shop	a. Action occurring at the moment of speaking
6. People are using computers more and more often	d. Trend



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Let's see if you have understood it! What are the following sentences used for?

1. Pupils are studying harder and harder.

- ☐ Action occurring at the moment of speaking.
- ☐ Future plan or arrangement.
- ☐ Trend.

¡Incorrecto!

¡Incorrecto!

¡Correcto!

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta

2. Paco is trying on his new suit.

- ☐ Action occurring at the moment of speaking.
- ☐ Future plan or arrangement.
- ☐ Repeated action which is irritating to the speaker.

¡Correcto!

¡Incorrecto!

¡Incorrecto!

### Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto
3. Incorrecto

3. They can't keep quiet. They are constantly shouting.

☐

Trend.

- ☐ Action occurring at the moment of speaking.
- ☐ Repeated action which is irritating to the speaker.

¡Incorrecto!

¡Incorrecto!

¡Correcto!

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta



Para saber más

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### ROB or STEAL?



- Sometimes, we have problems when deciding if we need the verb to rob or to steal, because in Spanish, they are both *robar*.
  - rob a person or a place. Al Capone robbed a bank. he robbed me using a gun.
  - steal something. He stole my money. They stole my bike. [Click here](#) if you want to improve the use of to rob and to steal.
-



## Tarea

Answer the following questions.

1. What are you doing now?
2. Are you and your friends meeting next Saturday?
3. Are you studying this week?
4. Are people in your village, town or city giving up smoking?
5. Are you doing sports this month?
6. Is any of your friends travelling next week?
7. Where are you going this afternoon?

Now record your answers and listen to yourself.



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## Para saber más

There are plenty of exercises to improve the use and form of this tense.



- For example, [click either here](#) or [here](#) if you want to complete easy exercises.
- For a more complex practice where you have to decide whether you need the present continuous or the present simple, [click here](#).

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Now that we know the form of the positive sentences in the Present Continuous Tense and what this tense is used for, let's have a look at its negative form in the following section!

## 2. Paco isn't having a good time (negatives)

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### Present Continuous Negative

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#### LEMON TREE

Paco isn't having a good time. As we know, he doesn't like going shopping. He is thinking how great it would be to be listening to music, for example, to the song "Lemon Tree", by German pop band Fool's Garden from the album *Dish of the Day* (1995). Notice the present continuous tenses in this famous song, whose single became a major international hit in 1996.

[Enlace a recurso reproducible >> http://www.youtube.com/embed/hhaeXCufKJA](http://www.youtube.com/embed/hhaeXCufKJA)

## LEMON TREE - Fool's Garden with LYRICS!



Vídeo de [Antonio Pantano](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).

	sitting	here in the boring room.
	wasting	my time.
	hanging around.	
	waiting	for you.
I'm	driving around	in my car.
	driving	too fast.
		too far.

	turning	my head up and down.
	turning around	
	stepping around	in the desert of joy.

All the previous sentences are positive. What about the negative forms of those sentences?

Long form	Short form	NOT	Short form	Present Participle	
I am	(I'm)	NOT		sitting	here in the boring room.
You are		NOT	(You aren't)	wasting	my time.
He is		NOT	(He isn't)	hanging around.	
She is		NOT	(She isn't)	waiting	for you.
We are		NOT	(We aren't)	driving around	in my car.
You are		NOT	(You aren't)	driving	too fast.
They are		NOT	(They aren't)		too far.
Paco is		NOT	(Paco isn't)	turning	my head up and down.
My friends are		NOT	(My friends aren't)	turning around.	
You and I		NOT	(You and I aren't)	stepping around	in the desert of joy.



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Read the passage below and fill in the blanks in the present continuous or progressive tense (use short forms only in the negative: I'm not, isn't, aren't).



Elaboración propia

Paco, Sonia and their mother   (have) a look in a shop. Sonia   (not help) her brother to choose a nice suit. She   (look) for vivid colours and modern clothes and Paco's mother   (bring) formal suits for him.

Paco   (not enjoy) himself much. In fact, he   (suffer) because he doesn't like going shopping. His sister and his mother love it. So, they   (have) a good time, but Paco isn't. He   (meet) the manager of an important bank tomorrow. This is why he wants to buy a new suit. He wants to buy a smart suit. At the moment, he   (wear) formal clothes.



Para saber más

- 
- Have a look at [this presentation](#) to remember the form and uses of the Present Continuous tenses. Can you see how easy it is? Come on, let's try! What are you doing now?
- 



## Importante

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### **ATTENTION!!!**

**There are verbs which CANNOT  
be used in the Present Continuous  
or Progressive Tense!!**

**To study them, go to next section,  
please.**

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### 3. Paco likes his new suit (stative verbs)

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#### Stative verbs



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Have a look at this sentence: *Paco wants to buy a smart suit.*

Here, "want" is not in the present continuous tense. Can we use want in the present continuous? Can we use modal verbs (can, could, will, etc) in continuous or progressive tenses?



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No we **can't**. Want is a stative verb (see below) and we don't use stative verbs in the continuous. Modal verbs can **never** be used in continuous or progressive tenses. In fact, they have neither a present participle nor a gerund.



#### Stative vs. Dynamic verbs

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Apart from modal verbs, there are other verbs which are not normally used in continuous or progressive tenses. They are known as stative verbs, state verbs, or even non-progressive verbs, in contrast with dynamic verbs (often referred to as action verbs), which can be used in continuous or progressive tenses. [Click here](#) to understand the difference between stative and dynamic verbs in English. As you'll see, some stative verbs can also be dynamic depending on the sense in the sentences (e.g. to have = to possess - stative; to have = to eat or drink - dynamic).

So, stative verbs usually describe a state or a condition [rather](#) than an action. Now, have a look at the presentation on the right to learn different stative verbs which cannot be used in the present continuous or in any other progressive tense.

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## Para saber más

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In the following web sites you can improve your knowledge on stative and dynamic verbs.

- [Click here](#) to do two useful exercises on the subject.
  - And [here](#) you can find a good cloze test to practise it.
- 



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[Enlace a recurso reproducible >> https://www.youtube.com/embed/MtmQKUtSWMk](https://www.youtube.com/embed/MtmQKUtSWMk)



Which verbs in the song are stative?

First, when there's nothing but a slow glowing dream  
That your fear seems to hide deep inside your mind  
All alone I have cried silent tears full of pride  
In a world made of steel, made of stone

Well I hear the music, close my eyes, feel the rhythm  
Wrap around, take a hold of my heart

[Chorus:]

What a feeling, bein's believin'  
I can't have it all, now I'm dancin' for my life  
Take your passion, and make it happen  
Pictures come alive, you can dance right through your life

[Solo]

Now I hear the music, close my eyes, I am rhythm  
In a flash it takes hold of my heart

[chorus (with ... "now I'm dancing through my life")]

What a feeling

What a feeling (I am music now), bein's believin' (I am rhythm now)  
Pictures come alive, you can dance right through your life  
What a feeling (I can really have it all)  
What a feeling (Pictures come alive when I call)  
I can have it all (I can really have it all)  
Have it all (Pictures come alive when I call)

(call, call, call, call, what a feeling) I can have it all  
(Bein's believin') bein's believin'  
(Take your passion, make it happen) make it happen  
(What a feeling) what a feeling...

Can you guess them?

Stative verbs appear in bold type:

First, when **there's** nothing but a slow glowing dream  
That your fear **seems** to hide deep inside your mind  
All alone I have cried silent tears full of pride  
In a world made of steel, made of stone

Well I **hear** the music, close my eyes, feel the rhythm  
Wrap around, take a hold of my heart

[Chorus:]

What a feeling, bein's believin'  
I can't **have** it all, now I'm dancin' for my life  
Take your passion, and make it happen  
Pictures come alive, you can dance right through your life

[Solo]

Now I **hear** the music, close my eyes, I **am** rhythm  
In a flash it takes hold of my heart

[chorus (with ... "now I'm dancing through my life")]

What a feeling

What a feeling (I **am** music now), bein's believin' (I **am** rhythm now)  
Pictures come alive, you can dance right through your life  
What a feeling (I can really **have** it all)  
What a feeling (Pictures come alive when I call)  
I can **have** it all (I can really **have** it all)  
**Have** it all (Pictures come alive when I call)  
(call, call, call, call, what a feeling) I can **have** it all  
(Bein's believin') bein's believin'  
(Take your passion, make it happen) make it happen  
(What a feeling) what a feeling...



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Decide which of the following sentences is correct.

1.

- ☐ At this moment, Paco doesn't belong to any tennis club.
- ☐ At this moment, Paco isn't belonging to any tennis club.

That's it! To belong is a stative verb here.

Wrong! To belong is a stative verb, so the present continuous tense is not possible.

## Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

2.

- ☐ Paco has a sandwich and a coke now.
- ☐ Paco is having a sandwich and a coke now.

Wrong! To have does not mean to possess here and the action is occurring now, at the moment of speaking, so the present continuous tense is needed.

That's it! To have is a dynamic verb here. It means to eat and drink and the action is occurring now, at the moment of speaking, so the present continuous tense is needed.

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

3.

- ☐ Paco is wearing a new suit.
- ☐ Paco wears a new suit.

That's it! The action is occurring at the moment of speaking. So, although in Spanish we use the Presente de Indicativo, in English the present continuous tense is needed.

Wrong! The action is occurring at the moment of speaking. So, although in Spanish we use the Presente de Indicativo, in English the present continuous tense is needed.

### Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

4.

- ☐ Sonia is seeming worried!
- ☐ Sonia seems worried!

Wrong! To seem is a stative verb, so the present continuous tense is not possible.

That's it! To seem is a stative verb, so the present continuous tense is not possible.

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

5.

- ☐ Where is Andrés? - He's tasting the cake his mother has made.
- ☐

Where is Andrés? He tastes the cake his mother has made.

That's it! To taste means here to test the flavour of the cake and the action is occurring at the moment of speaking, so the present continuous tense is needed.

Wrong! To taste means here to test the flavour of the cake, and not to perceive the flavour of the cake, and the action is occurring at the moment of speaking, so the present continuous tense is needed.

### Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto



### Importante

Remember that there are verbs which may be stative or dynamic depending on the sense in the sentences. Have a look at [this web site](#), **watch the video and read the information provided**. Then, [do this exercise](#) (don't forget to check your answers).

It is important that you perfectly distinguish the Present Continuous tense from the Simple Present. In the following section we are going to compare their uses. Let's go and study it!

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## 4. Paco is following a low-fat diet (Simple or continuous?)

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Click on the photograph and listen to the song. Notice the verbs in the Present Simple and those in the Present Continuous tenses.

High School Musical 2 - You are the music in me



Vídeo de [Sam de Man](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).

In **bold** = continuous, in *italics* in simple.

Na na na na

Na na na na yeah

You *are* the music in me

You *know* the words "Once Upon A Time"

Make you listen? There's a reason.

When you *dream* there's a chance you'll find

A little laughter or a happy ever after

Your harmony to the melody

It's **echoing** inside my head

A single voice (Single voice)

Above the noise

And like a common thread

Hmm, you're **pulling** me

When I *hear* my favorite song

I *know* that we belong

Oh, you *are* the music in me

Yeah it's **living** in all of us

And it's brought us here because

Because you *are* the music in me

Na na na na (Ohh)

Na na na na na



Yeah yeah yeah (Na na na na)

You *are* the music in me

It's like I knew you before we met (Before we met)

*Can't explain* it (Ohh ohh)

There's no name for it (No name for it)

I'm **saying** words I never said

And it was easy (So easy)

Because you *see* the real me (I see)

As I *am*

You *understand*

And that's more than I've ever known

To hear your voice (Hear your voice)

Above the noise (Ohh ohh)

And no, I'm *not* alone

Oh you're **singing** to me (Ohh yeah)

When I *hear* my favorite song

I *know* that we belong (Yeah ohh)

You *are* the music in me

It's **living** in all of us

And it's brought us here because

You *are* the music in me

Together we're gonna sing (Yeah)

We got the power to sing what we *feel* (What we feel)

Connected and real

*Can't keep* it all inside (Ohh)



## Reflexión

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As you have noticed we use the Present Simple and the Present Continuous tenses for completely different things. However, both are Present Tenses.

Have a look at the presentation below to clearly see the differences in form and uses of these two important tenses in English (it includes useful vocabulary, too).

What's the difference between the Present Continuous and Present Simple?

[Enlace a recurso reproducible >> http://www.youtube.com/embed/77utPV-FkUE?feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/embed/77utPV-FkUE?feature=player_embedded)

## Gramática Inglés: Presente Simple vs. Presente Continuo



Vídeo de [Bluebloc Notes \(Aprender Inglés\)](#) alojado en [Youtube](#).



### Para saber más

Remember that practising a lot is one of the best ways to improve your English.

- You will find more exercises to distinguish when to use these two tenses [here](#).
- And [click here](#) if you want to complete a short passage instead of sentences.

Paco is following a low-fat diet. He is training hard because he has a football championship in Almería. Let's have a look at his eating habits and what he is eating now to keep fit for the competition.



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Read the sentences below and fill in blanks with the suitable tense (Present Simple or Present Continuous) of the verbs in brackets. Pay attention to negative verbs (use short forms).



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Usually, Paco  (eat) anything he  (want) to and   (not worry) about what it does to his body. However, now, he   (compete) in football and he  (have) to change his eating habits.

Usually, he  (get) up and  (have) orange juice or justskips breakfast because he  (be) late for class. Then at lunch, he frequently  (meet) Andrés and some other friends at a bar and they  (have) a sandwich, fries and a drink.

At dinner time, he always  down (sit) with his family, and  (enjoy) a big meal. His mother usually  (serve) meat, vegetables and some potatoes. Most evenings, by ten o'clock, he  (be) hungry again, so he  (have) a big glass of milk and cookies.

Now, he   (play) football competitively and his diet  (be) completely different. These days, he   (eat) a lot more protein, eggs and bacon, and carbohydrate in the mornings. So, he has more energy for his morning

work-out. He   (spend) the afternoon with his basketball teammates, not his "junk food" friends. He is following a low-fat, high-protein diet.

Now, at dinner, he   (have) an extra helping of meat and potatoes. In fact, his mother   (have) trouble keeping enough food in the refrigerator. She  (think) that he is an eating-machine. Next week Paco   (go) to Badajoz for the Regional Football Championship. He is excited about it, but he  (know) that it may take a while until they  (win) a big competition.



## Curiosidad

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### Health: Overweight and obesity



Do you know that there are more than 1 billion overweight adults in the world? And that 300 million of them are obese?

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) overweight and obesity pose a major risk for chronic diseases, including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and stroke, and certain forms of cancer. Experts tend to agree that the key causes are increased consumption of energy-dense foods high in saturated fats and sugars, and reduced physical activity. The health consequences range from increased risk of premature death, to serious chronic conditions that reduce the overall quality of life.

Of especial concern is the increasing incidence of child obesity. More and more often, children stop doing physical activity and spend long hours in front of the television or the computer. In Australia, for example, children are becoming so fat that they need bigger booster seats to keep them safe in the car.

Among the fattest countries in the world, we find the United States of America, which was in the [9th position](#) in 2007 (Spain was in position 83). In his book *Fat Land: How Americans Became the Fattest People in the World* (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2003), Greg Critser assures that the problems began with [Earl Butz](#), a former Secretary of Agriculture to Richard Nixon whose [brief](#) was to produce cheaper food. From then on, Ronald McDonald has become the second-most instantly recognised figure to children after Santa Claus.



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Remember that one of the main uses of the Present Continuous or Progressive tense is to refer to actions that are happening at the moment of speaking. Do you think we always use a similar tense in Spanish? Let's study it in the next section.

## 4.1 Where is Sonia going?

---



"Lost" in translation



Quite often, students of English try to speak, write or understand English by means of translation. So, they tend to believe that if they think of a sentence in Spanish and translate it into English, the result will be correct. Well, forget about that! Very frequently, literal translations are not possible to transfer the meaning of a sentence into another language. What we have to do is to interpret the meaning of a text and produce an equivalent text.

Click on the video to have a look at some funny signs found around the world.

Enlace a recurso reproducible >> <http://www.youtube.com/embed/JCC2zL7Kwfo>

Vídeo de [xColdAsIce](#) alojado en [Youtube](#)



Watch the following presentation and decide why the signs may be misinterpreted.



Evidently, by having a look at the literal Spanish translation of those signs, you'll notice that they were not written to mean that.

- Please, do not feed the animals. If you have any suitable food, give it to the guard on duty.

*Por favor, no alimente a los animales. Si tiene usted algún alimento apropiado, d selo al guardia.*

- Please, leave your values at the front desk.

*Por favor, deje sus valores en la mesa de la entrada.*

- Visitors are expected to complain at the office between between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. daily.

*Se espera que los visitantes se quejen en la oficina entre las 9 y las once de la ma ana diariamente.*

- In case of fire, do your outmost to alarm the hotel porter.

*En caso de incendio, haga lo posible por alarmar al portero.*

- If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it.

*Si es su primera visita a la URSS, sea bienvenido.*

- Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar.



*Se solicita a las damas que no tengan niños en el bar.*

- Cooles and Heates: If you just want condition of warm in your room, please control yourself.

*Enfría y calienta: Si quiere un ambiente cálido en su habitación, por favor contrólese.*

- Specialist in women and other diseases.

*Especialista en mujeres y otras enfermedades.*



## Importante



Elaboración propia

Something similar occurs with the Present Continuous in English and some Spanish tenses. For example, in Spanish we say **¿Dónde va Sofía?** However, since the action of "going" is occurring at the moment of speaking, the sentence in English is **Where is Sofía going?** Another example would be a sentence such as **Paco lleva puesto un traje nuevo.** The action of "wearing" is happening at the moment of speaking, so, the English equivalent would be **Paco is wearing a new suit.**



## Comprueba lo aprendido

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Although it is not a translation course, let's see if you have understood that when the action occurs at the moment of speaking we use the Present Continuous or Progressive tense in English; although in Spanish the Presente de Indicativo is used.

**Guess the correct translation of these Spanish sentences.**

1. ¿Qué haces ahora?

 [Sugerencia](#)

- ☐ What do you do now?
- ☐ What are you doing now?

Wrong! The question refers to the moment of speaking. So, the Present Continuous tense is needed.

That's it! The question refers to the moment of speaking. So, the Present Continuous tense is needed.

### Solución

- 1. Incorrecto
- 2. Opción correcta

2. No sé por qué te comes ese plátano justo antes de desayunar.

 [Sugerencia](#)

- ☐ I don't know why you are eating that banana just before breakfast.
- ☐ I don't know why you eat that banana just before breakfast.

That's it! The Spanish sentence is taking place now, so the Present Continuous tense is needed.

Wrong! The Spanish sentence is taking place now, so the Present Continuous tense is needed.

## Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

3. ¿Dónde vas los lunes por la tarde?

 [Sugerencia](#)

- ☐ Where are you going on Monday afternoons?
- ☐ Where do you go on Sunday afternoons?

Wrong! The Spanish sentence asks for a routine, so the Present Simple tense is needed.

That's it! The Spanish sentence asks for a routine, so the Present Simple tense is needed.

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta



## Para saber más

The same happens the other way round. That is, some Spanish tenses sound as if they were continuous tenses in English. For example, a sentence like **No estás entendiendo lo que te quiero decir**, in English would be **You don't understand what I mean**. The reason is that *understand* is, as we already know, a stative verb. Other examples are:

- La película me está encantando / I love this film.
- Nos estamos imaginando lo que vas a hacer / We imagine what you're going to do.
- For further information on this subject, [click here](#). By [clicking here](#) you will also find useful information about it.



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Now that we know the form and uses of the Present Continuous or Progressive tense and the Present Simple, it is time to [look into](#) the pronunciation of the third person singular -s/-es of the Simple Present tense. And this is what we are going to do in the following section.

## 4.2 Paco's mother loves formal clothes (pronunciation of S)

---

### The pronunciation of the -s in the present simple

As you know now, Paco likes informal clothes. However, his mother doesn't. Paco's mother prefers formal clothes to informal ones. In fact, she **loves** formal clothes.

In the previous sentence the verb **loves** is, as you can see, the third person singular of the Present Simple of the verb **to love**, and the final -s is a voiced sound: /z/. Can you guess why?

The pronunciation of that final -s depends on whether the infinitive form ends in a voiced or a voiceless letter. [Click here](#) to learn about it.

Sounds of English									
VOWELS									
ɪ	ʊ	ʌ	ɒ	ə	e	æ	'short'		
i:	u:	ɑ:	ɔ:	ɜ:	'long'				
ɪə	ʊə	aɪ	ɔɪ	əʊ	eə	aʊ	eɪ	diphthongs	
CONSONANTS									
p	t	tʃ	k	f	θ	s	ʃ	voiceless	
b	d	dʒ	g	v	ð	z	ʒ	voiced	
m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j		
bbclearningenglish.com									






Para saber más

- If you want to improve the sounds in English, visit [this web site](#) by the BBC and learn how all of them are pronounced.
- You will learn quite a lot from it! Don't forget to have a look at the [features of English section](#).
- When you are ready, practise them by doing [this quiz](#), and the others you should keep this web site in your favourite web sites so that you can visit it whenever you work on sounds.
- You will not [regret](#) spending a long time on it!



Listen to the following lists of verbs and the sentences and repeat them. Pay attention to the pronunciation of third person singular **-(e)s**.

Voiced /z/	Voiceless /s/	
loves (Paco's mother loves formal clothes)	works (Andrés's father works there)	fishes (Our fr
plays (Paco plays football at weekends)	makes (Paco's mother always makes dinner)	buzzes (The c
studies (Sonia studies really hard)	laughs (They always laugh at me)	watches (He v
is (Andrés is one of Paco's best friends)	talks (Paco talks to Andrés quite often)	washes (Pacc
comes (He always comes with a present)	stops (She never stops laughing)	exercises (He
robs (I don't know anyone who robs)	hopes (Sonia hopes a better life)	damages (Ju
bathes (He bathes in the sea every summer)	looks (She looks really nice)	memorizes (h

goes (Paco goes fishing most weekends)	sits (That woman always sits down there)	fixes (Sonia f
turns (It turns my stomach)	takes (It takes him two hours to complete it)	pushes (He a
calls (Andrés often calls Paco)	puts (Paco puts on weight easily)	kisses (Paco
		



## Comprueba lo aprendido

Are the third person singular of the following verbs pronounced /s/ (voiceless), /z/ (voiced) or /iz/?

1. asks

- ☐ /z/
- ☐ /s/

Wrong! /k/ is a voiceless sound.

That's it! /k/ is a voiceless sound, so the third person singular -s is voiceless /s/, too.

### Solución

1. Incorrecto



2. Opción correcta

2. becomes

- ☐ /z/
- ☐ /iz/

That's it! /m/ is a voiced sound, so the third person singular -s is also voiced /z/.

Wrong! Only the third person singular -es of verbs ending in -s, sh /ʃ/, ch /tʃ/, z, and dʒ/ is pronounced /iz/.

### Solución

- 1. Opción correcta
- 2. Incorrecto

3. helps

- ☐ /s/
- ☐ /z/

That's it! /p/ is a voiceless sound, so the third person singular -s is voiceless, too.

Wrong! /p/ is a voiceless sound, so the third person singular -s is voiceless, too.

### Solución

- 1. Opción correcta
- 2. Incorrecto

4. catches

- ☐ /iz/
- ☐ /s/

That's it! When the infinitive of a verb ends in ch /tʃ/, the -es of the third person singular is pronounced /iz/.

Wrong! When the infinitive of a verb ends in ch /tʃ/, the -es of the third person singular is pronounced /iz/.

### Solución

- 1. Opción correcta
- 2. Incorrecto

5. knows

- ☐ /s/
- ☐ /z/

Wrong! /əu/ is a diphthong and all diphthongs are voiced.

That's it! /əu/ is a diphthong and all diphthongs are voiced, so the third person singular -s is also voiced /z/.

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta



## Para saber más

- [Click here](#) if you want to go on improving the pronunciation of the third person singular -(e)s of the Present Simple tense in English.
- And [here](#) you can find more useful exercises to consolidate your learning.

---

This is the end of topic 3. In the next topic you will learn how to ask questions with the tenses studied up to now (Present Simple and Present Continuous or Progressive) as well as how to ask them with a correct intonation. Some vocabulary related to leisure activities will also be learnt.

## 5. Further practice

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### Ejercicio Resuelto

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Paco has talked to the bank manager and he is going to deposit the money won in the lottery in that bank. After taking off his new suit, he feels like having a relaxing bath. In the bath, he receives a phone call. This is one of his best friends, Andrés. Read the conversation, carefully.

**Andrés:** What are you doing?

**Paco:** I'm in the bathroom. I'm having a bath.

**Andrés:** What are you doing in the bath so early?

**Paco:** I'm thinking about an assignment. I have to write a dialogue in English.

**Andrés:** Is it for tomorrow?

**Paco:** No, it's not. It's for next week.

**Andrés:** What are you stressing about then? You have plenty of time.

**Paco:** I know, I just don't feel like doing it. Every time I start to work I feel so overwhelmed.

**Andrés:** Obviously you need to take the night off. What do you think about that? We could make a nice dinner.

**Paco:** I can't! I really need to work...



**Andrés:** But you don't want to work! If you're not going to enjoy working on it, then it's not worth doing.

**Paco:** Well, I'm not going to enjoy the process, but I think the work is worth it.

**Andrés:** You're telling me that writing the dialogue is going to be unpleasant, but despite this, the work is somehow worth it in the end?

**Paco:** Well of course it's worth it! If I thought it's not worth it, then what am I doing at University?

**Andrés:** Exactly! What are you doing at University? I really believe that if it doesn't feel good to do something, then it is not a good thing to do. Look! Right now you're in the bath and it feels good. You're not doing your schoolwork because it feels bad. So, having a bath is the right thing to do, and congratulations, you're doing the right thing!

**Paco:** Andrés, just because having a bath feels good doesn't mean that it is good.

**Andrés:** Yes, You're right! But now you have a lot of money. You don't have to do any schoolwork. In any case, are you going to the travel agency tomorrow?

**Paco:** I'm not sure. I'd like to, but first I must do my homework, you know, "business before pleasure". I'll phone you when we can make a nice dinner. Good bye!

**Andrés:** Bye, Paco!

Dialogue adapted from **Dialogue Over a Bath**, by [Jenny Amber Petch](#)

In the conversation Paco and Andrés have, we can see some different tenses. This is common in English because they are talking about actions that are occurring at the moment of speaking, habits or routines, likes, general truths, and they even talk about the future. We are going to concentrate on the Present Simple and Present Continuous tenses. To do so, let's have a look at the chart below where you'll find some sentences in the present continuous and some others in the present simple tense. Pay attention to the reason why they use those tenses.

Present Continuous	Use	Present Simple	Use
What are you doing?	NOW	I'm in the bathroom	STATIVE

			VERB
I'm having a bath	NOW	I have to write a dialogue in English	STATIVE VERB
I'm thinking about an assignment	NOW	I just don't feel like doing it	MENTAL STATE
What are you stressing about?	NOW	Every time I start to work...	GENERALLY TRUE
You're telling me...	NOW	You don't want to work!	STATIVE VERB
What am I doing at University?	AROUND THE PRESENT	The work is worth it.	STATIVE VERB
You're not doing your schoolwork	NOW	Now you have a lot of money	POSSESSION
You're doing the right thing	NOW	You don't have to do any schoolwork	STATIVE VERB
Are you going to the travel agency tomorrow?	FUTURE PLAN	I'm not sure	MENTAL STATE

In their conversation they also use lots of common stative verbs which cannot be used in continuous tenses.

Have you noticed how the Present Continuous tense is formed? Let's have a look at it!

## Present Continuous

Subject	to be	(NOT)	Present Participle	bare infinitive + -ing
I	am		having a bath	have + -ing - having
I	am		thinking about an assignment	think + -ing - thinking
You	are		telling me...	tell + -ing - telling
You	are	not	doing the right thing	do + -ing - doing

To form the present participle or gerund of English verbs is quite easy. Now that you know the spelling rules for adding suffix -ing to verbs, let's remember how it is done! Then watch the video on the right and try to guess the sentences in the present continuous tense (don't be afraid of the pronunciation, this is Australian English!). As you know, Paco likes helping people. However he could not understand a word of it! He must improve his English!



Video de [WorldVisionStir](#) alojado en [Youtube](#)

Bare infinitive	+ -ing	Present Participle / Gerund
study	-ing	stud <b>y</b> ing
begin	-ing	begin <b>n</b> ing
stop	-ing	stop <b>p</b> ing
say	-ing	say <b>y</b> ing
make	-ing	mak <b>e</b> ing
do	-ing	do <b>i</b> ng
lie	-ing	ly <b>o</b> ng
panic	-ing	pan <b>i</b> cking
work	-ing	work <b>i</b> ng

In the video, the speaker says what they are doing right now. To do so, she uses the present continuous tense in the following sentences:

- I can tell you what we're doing.
- Thanks to our generous supporters World Vision Australia is helping over 20 million people to break the cycle of poverty.
- Right now, we're working with families in communities across the Globe.
- That's what we're doing right now.
- Other sentences are in the present simple tense. Let's see some!
- Still, the fact is somewhere around the world another child dies every three seconds from preventable causes.
- That's right now! (when three seconds pass).

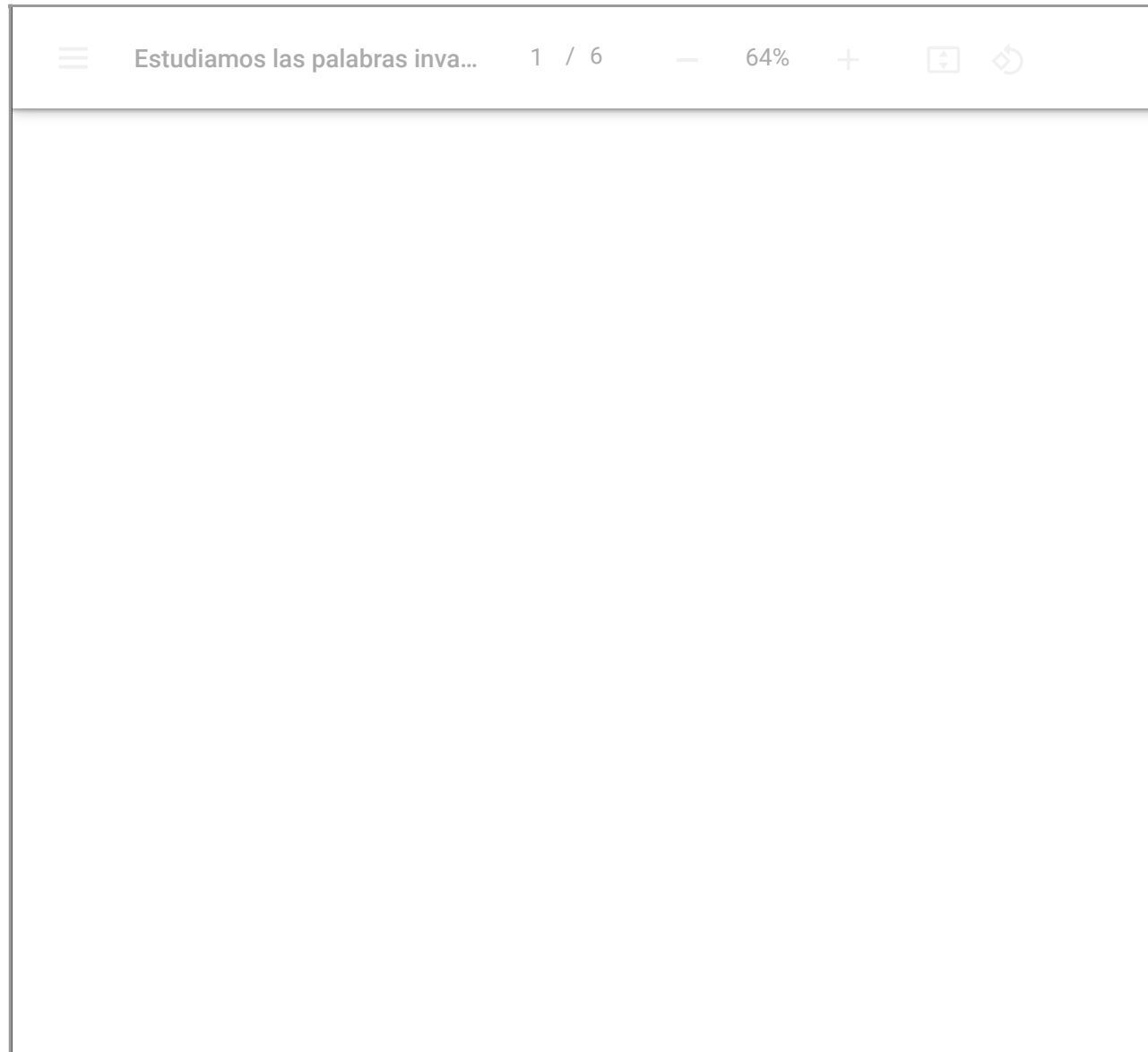


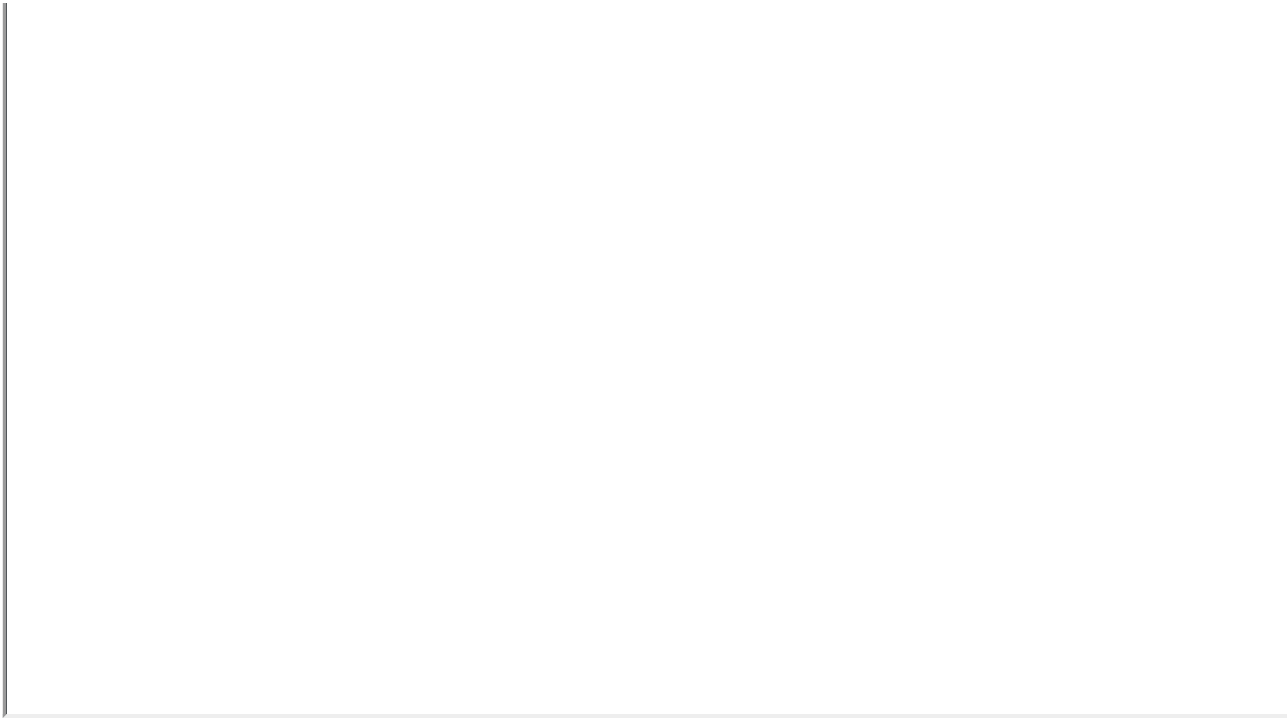


# Resumen

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