Present Continuous Tense—Yes-No Questions and Short Answers

Ask Yes-No questions in the present continuous tense to ask if something is happening right now.

To make a Yes-No question with the present continuous tense, put the *BE* part of the verb first.

Statement: I   am   dancing.

Yes-No Question: Am   I   dancing?

Questions	Short Answers		
	Affirmative (No Contraction)	**Negative**	
Am I dancing?	Yes, you are.	No, you aren't.	No, you're not.
Are you **going** home?	Yes, I am. Yes, we are.	--- No, we aren't.	No, I'm not. No, we're not.
Is he **sleeping**?	Yes, he is.	No, he isn't.	No, he's not.
Is she **driving**?	Yes, she is.	No, she isn't.	No, she's not.
Is it **raining**?	Yes, it is.	No, it isn't.	No, it's not.
Are we **making** noise?	Yes, we are. Yes, you are.	No, we aren't. No, you aren't.	No, we're not. No, you're not.
Are they **wearing** jeans?	Yes, they are.	No, they aren't.	No, they're not.

A Look at the pictures. Listen to the questions and circle the answers.

Jerry in Seattle

1.

(Yes, he is.)   No, he isn't.

Sue in Chicago

2.

Yes, she is.   No, she isn't.

Nick and Alex in Miami

3.

Yes, they are.   No, they aren't.

London

4.

Yes, it is.   No, it isn't.

B Write Yes-No questions about the pictures in Exercise A. Use the present continuous tense. Then answer the questions with short answers.

1. Jerry/wake up   Is Jerry waking up ?   Yes, he is.

2. Jerry/smile   ?

3. Sue/sit down   ?

4. Sue/stand   ?

5. Nick and Alex/ride bikes   ?

6. Nick and Alex/swim   ?

7. It/rain   in London?

8. It/snow   in London?

C Write Yes-No questions and short answers. Use the present continuous tense.

1.

(I/wear)

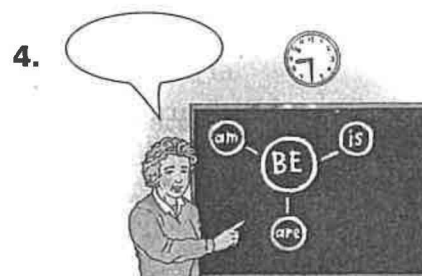Am I wearing the right clothes?

No, you're not.

2.

(I/make)

too much noise?

3.

(we/go)

too fast?

4.

(you/study)

English right now?

D On a small piece of paper, write a sentence in the present continuous tense with "I." Your teacher will collect the sentences. Students will take turns acting out the sentences and the class will guess what they are doing.

EXAMPLE sentence: I'm driving.

EXAMPLE question: Are you playing the piano?

EXAMPLE answers: No, I'm not./Yes, I am.