

Today, the intermediate class is studying laundry vocabulary. So we will discuss it also.

- 1.What is a laundromat? Do you ever use one? Can you describe how they work?
- 2.Do you have a laundry room in your house?
- 3.Do you take many clothes to the dry cleaners? Do you have things laundered there as well?
- 4.Most Americans have their dress shirts and khakis laundered. Is that true in your country?
- 5.Do you have any secrets for getting stains out?
- 6.Do you like to iron?
- 7.Who taught you to iron?
- 8.What rules for laundering did your mother give you?
- 9.What is the best detergent to use?
- 10.Do you use fabric softener.
- 11.How did your grandmother wash clothes?
- 12.When I was growing up, most people had clotheslines in their back yards. Now everyone has clothes dryers, instead. In your country, do people ever use clotheslines to dry their clothes?

Practice using the present continuous tense: (am/is/are) + “ing” form of the verb. EX: am crying
Write a sentence using the present continuous tense of the verb in parenthesis. The first one is done for you.

- 1.(try). Please don't make so much noise. I'm trying to sleep.
- 2.(take) Where is Mark? He is _____.
- 3.(build) Are Mary and Steve buying a new house? No, they are _____.
- 4.(have) Are you having lunch with us today? No, I _____.
- 5.(do) Is your company surviving the economic recession? _____.
- 6.(come) Have your parents visited lately? _____.
- 7.(work) Do you work downtown? _____.
- 8.(grow) How is your baby? _____.
- 9.(start) When do you start your new job? _____.
- 10.(manage) Who is in charge of your company now? _____.

There are some verbs that are never used in the present continuous tense. You should never say:

- 1.I am knowing the answer. _____
- 2.I am believing you. _____
- 3.I am belonging here. _____
- 4.I am deserving this. _____
- 5.I am fearing spiders. _____
- 6.I am hating Joe. _____
- 7.I am liking her. _____
- 8.I am oweing you money. _____
- 9.I am owning this house. _____
- 10.We are preferring the coffee. _____

Correct these sentences by using the present tense. For example, in number one, you would say, “I know the answer”.

Idioms:

If you **write someone up**, you report them for breaking a rule. EX: The teacher *is writing me up* for using bad language in the classroom. It doesn't seem fair. I said a cuss word under my breath. I didn't know she could hear me. I don't deserve this.

Have you ever been written up at school or at work for not following the rules?

A **write up** is a report or description, usually for publication. EX: There is an interesting *write up* in the paper about budget committee.

Do you read newspaper articles in English? What have you read about lately? Do you read newspapers from your home country? Do you follow online news in your country?

If you **write off** something, you declare it a loss and erase it from your books. EX: The bank *wrote off* all the bad debts from lenders who couldn't pay their mortgage.

A **write-off** is something you can deduct from the tax you owe. EX: My husband is an independent trucker. He gets lots of *write-offs*. For example, he can deduct the cost of his gasoline and maintenance on his truck as a business expense. By the time we add up all the write-offs, our tax bill is not too big.

In America, if you are self employed, you have lots of write offs or deductions. You can write off the cost of your office, your car and your health insurance. That helps a lot when you have to pay taxes. The reason for those deductions is so that small business owners don't get penalized for the high cost of doing business. Is the same true in your country? What does your country do to help out small business owners?

A **write in** candidate, is one who's name is not listed on the ballot. EX: The voters were so unhappy with the two candidates running for office, they *wrote in* another candidate's name.

If you are able to **write your own ticket**, you are able to set the terms of your action. EX: James scored so high on his bar exam that he had offers from all the major law firms. He was able to *write his own ticket*.

Were you able to write your own ticket when you graduated? Do you think going to a highly rated university helps you to be able to write your own ticket when you graduate?

Vocabulary

Which do you do more?

brag about your kids or complain about your kids?

agree with your wife or argue with your wife?

express your feelings or cover up your feelings?

relate to strangers or ignore strangers?

participate or observe?