

FUMC ESL 3-10-2022 High Beginning and Low Intermediate

NOTE: Next week is Spring Break in Austin. Kids will be out of school. Teachers will be on vacation. So, NO ESL CLASSES on March 14 or March 17. We will see you on March 21st.

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now.

VOCABULARY: Choose the correct verb in the sentences below.

1-I (flowed / flew) here from Mexico City. When I arrived, I went to the bank. They (changed / charged) my pesos into dollars.

2-You (seem / seen) happy. Last time I (sew / saw) you, you looked sad.

3-The dog (attached / attacked) me. He (bit / bide) me on the leg in two places.

4-I didn't have any money. I (loaned / borrowed) some money from my friend to pay for lunch.

5-I cleaned the sink and (swept / broomed) the floors.

6-We (bought / brought) some cookies to the picnic.

7-I don't remember what she said. I (forgive / forget) things often.

8-Please (lie / lay) the book on the table.

9-I (lie / lay) down every afternoon for a short rest.

10-I asked the man to (show / shine) my shoes.

GRAMMAR:

English has 12 verb tenses. Some of these tenses are rarely used. But it is good to know how to use all of them. Over the next few lessons, we will do a review of verb tenses. We'll start today by looking at present tense and present continuous tense.

Present:

What do you eat for breakfast? I **eat** eggs and toast for breakfast.

Present Continuous:

Where are you eating now? I **am eating** a candy bar.

Present tense and present continuous tense are similar. Remember, we use present tense for something that happens repeatedly. EX: I **eat** breakfast every morning. I **take** the bus to work. We **spend** lots of money on food.

We use present continuous for something that is happening right now. EX: I **am studying** my English lesson. We **are working** in the garden. She **is talking** very loudly.

Note that present continuous **can also be used** to talk about something that will happen in the **future**. EX: We are going to France this summer. I am going to apply for that job.

We could use future tense here as well. EX: We will go to France this summer. I will apply for that job.

The meaning is the same. Either sentence is correct.

It is also important to know that not all verbs can be used in present continuous tense. For example, we don't say, "I am believing you." We say, "I believe you." These verbs are usually verbs that you can't see somebody doing. Read these examples of incorrect usage.

I am wanting some chocolate.	Correct: I want some chocolate.
We are needing a hug.	Correct: We need a hug.
Those toys are belonging to us.	Correct: Those toys belong to us.
I am disliking her very much.	Correct: I dislike her very much.
We are owning a house.	Correct: We own a house.

In all of these sentences, you would use present tense. BUT, understand that in casual speech, sometimes people **disobey this rule**. You might hear someone say, "I'm really loving this movie." OR "Jess is looking tired." The preferred way to say this is, "I really love this movie." "Jess looks tired." But, in casual speech, you will hear people disobeying the rule.

There are also verbs that use present continuous tense only **in certain situations**. For example, if you are walking on a path and the scent of flowers hits you, you say, "I smell flowers." You would not say, "I am smelling flowers." BUT, if you put your nose close to a flower and someone says, "What are you doing?" the correct answer would be, "I am smelling these flowers."

I have two children. NOT I am having two children.
BUT if you are pregnant and someone asks you if you are having a girl or a boy, you would say, "I am having a boy."

- Jon looks tired. BUT Jon is looking at the picture.
- Jo misses me. BUT Jo is missing her favorite TV program because she is at school. (The first sentence means Jo is experiencing loss because I am not there. The second sentence means Jo is not able to watch her TV show at this time.)
- He thinks the test is easy. BUT He is thinking about going back to school.
- Bob weighs a lot. BUT Bob is weighing himself now.
- Sam is an American. BUT Sam is being rude.

Quiz: Put either present tense or present continuous tense in the blanks. The first one is done for you.

- I (work) _____ until 9 on weekends.
- Every Monday, Sal (drive) _____ her kids to school.
- Please be quiet. The baby (sleep) _____.
- Don't forget your umbrella. It (rain) _____.
- I hate living here because it always (rain) _____.
- Speak up! I can't hear what you (say) _____.
- Usually I (work) _____ during the summer, but this year I (go) _____ to summer school.
- My husband (play) _____ golf every weekend.

9. She lies a lot, but her mother always (believe) _____ her.
10. She (want) _____ to buy a new computer.
11. The girls (attend) _____ school six days a week.
12. Granny (keep) _____ the children this week so we can work.

READING COMPREHENSION: HOLDING THE BAG, Chapter 8–Going Home

Negasi can't drive until his hands stop shaking. So he sits for a few more minutes in his taxi. Negasi knows about fear. There were times in Ethiopia when he was very afraid. He lived through a terrible war. He saw many people die. But he has never felt afraid like that in the United States--until now.

Negasi drives to the nearest gas station and fills up his tank. Then he calls Ana on his cell phone. "Hello, Negasi! Where have you been? I have been so worried."
"Yes, I'm sorry, Ana. I'm on my way home now." Negasi doesn't want to explain anything to Ana right now. He'll talk about it later, after the children are asleep.

On his way home, Negasi thinks about going to the police. But he doesn't really want to do that. Yes, the man had a gun. And, yes, he didn't pay his fare. But Negasi is okay now. And he doesn't have time to go to the police. He doesn't want to fill out a report and answer questions. Besides, the police will never find that man.

The streetlight is on in front of Negasi's apartment building. And he sees another light shining through his third-floor window. Negasi is home later than usual, but he's home. He can see Ana and the children again. He is very thankful for that.

Negasi puts his key in the taxi door to lock it. But then he notices something on the backseat. "Hmm," thinks Negasi. "It looks like a black bag."

Fill in the blanks.

1. Negasi can't drive until his _____ stop shaking.
2. He sits for a few more _____ in his taxi.
3. Negasi knows about _____.
4. There were times in _____ when he was very afraid.
5. He lived through a terrible _____, and he saw many people _____.
6. But he has never felt _____ like that in the U.S., until now.
7. Negasi drives to the nearest _____ and fills his tank.
8. Then he calls Ana on his _____.
9. Ana has been so _____ about Negasi.
10. Negasi is home _____ than usual.
11. Negasi can see Ana and the children. He is very _____ for that.
12. Negasi notices something in the backseat. It looks like a _____.

Questions:

1. Why doesn't Negasi go to the police?

2. Do you think Negasi should have gone to the police?
3. Do you think Negasi will tell the children what happened tonight?
4. Have you been afraid since you have been in the U.S.? Tell about a time when you were afraid.
5. If you were home alone, would you open your apartment door if someone knocked?
6. Have you ever been the victim of a crime?