



They are playing tennis (now).

He is playing tennis tomorrow.

We use am/is/are + -ing (present continuous) for something happening now:

- 'Where are Sue and Caroline?' 'They're playing tennis in the park.'
- Please be quiet. I'm working.

We also use **am/is/are** + **-ing** for the *future* (tomorrow / next week *etc.*):

- Andrew is playing tennis tomorrow.
- I'm not working next week.
- I am doing something tomorrow = I have arranged to do it, I have a plan to do it:
  - Alice is going to the dentist on Friday. (= she has an appointment to see the dentist)
  - We're having a party next weekend.
  - Are you meeting Bill this evening?
  - What are you doing tomorrow evening? • I'm not going out tonight. I'm staying at home.

You can also say 'I'm going to do something' (\Rightarrow Unit 27).



- Do not use the present simple (I stay / do you go etc.) for plans and arrangements:
  - I'm staying at home this evening. (not 'I stay')
  - Are you going out tonight? (not 'Do you go')
  - Ann isn't coming to the party next week. (not 'Ann doesn't come')

But we use the present simple for timetables, programmes, trains, buses etc.:

- The train arrives at 7.30.
- What time does the film finish?

## Compare:

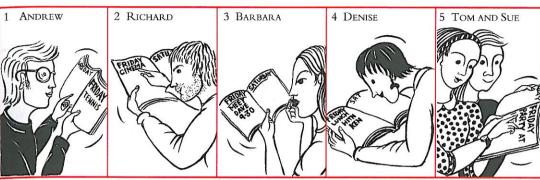
present continuous - usually for people

present simple - timetables, programmes etc.

- I'm going to a concert tomorrow.
- What time are you leaving?
- The concert **starts** at 7.30.
- What time does your train leave ?

## Look at the pictures. What are these people doing next Friday?

**EXERCISES** 



	Andrew is playing tennis on Friday.  Richard to the cinema.  Barbara	4 5	lunch with Ken.
2	Write questions. All the sentences are future.	7	

1	(you / go / out / tonight?)	Are you going out tonight?
2	(you / work / next week?)	
3	(what / you / do / tomorrow evening?)	
4	(what time / your friends / arrive?)	
5	(when / Liz / go / on holiday?)	

Write sentences about yourself. What are you doing in the next few days?

1	I'm staying at home tonight.
2	I'm going to the theatre on Monday.
3	
4	
5	
6	

5.4 Put the verb in the present continuous (he is leaving etc.) or present simple (the train leaves etc.).

1	'Are you going (you/go) out this evening?' 'No, I'm too tired.'		
2	We're going (we/go) to a concert this evening. It starts (it/start) at 7.30.		
3	Do you know about Sally? (she/get) married next month		
	A: My parents(go) on holiday next week.		
	B: Oh, that's nice. Where (they/go)?		
5	Silvia is doing an English course at the moment. The course		
	(finish) on Friday.		
6	There's a football match tomorrow but(I/not/go).		
7	7(I/go) out with some friends tonight. Why don't you cor		
	too?(we/meet) at John's house at 8 o'clock.		
8	A: How		
	B: No, I can go by bus. The last bus		
9	A: Do you want to go to the cinema tonight?		
	B: Yes, what time (the film / begin)?		
10	A: What(you/do) next Monday afternoon?		

(I/work).