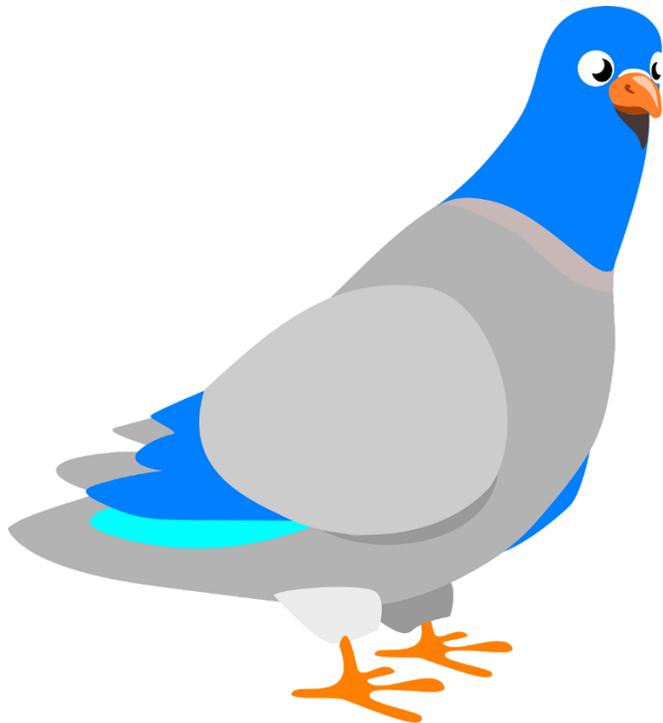


Present Continuous

Forming the present continuous:

The present continuous of any verb is composed of two parts - the present tense of the verb to be + the present participle of the main verb.

(The form of the present participle is: base+ing, e.g. talking, playing, moving, smiling)



Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
Subject + to be + base + ing	Subject + to be + not + base + ing	to be + subject + base + ing
She is talking.	She is not (isn't) talking	Is she talking?

Δες το...αλλιώς

Present Continuous



Examples: TO GO, present continuous:

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I am going	I am not going	Am I going?
You are going	You aren't going.	Are you going?
He, she, it is going	He, she, it isn't going	Is he, she, it going?
We are going	We aren't going	Are we going?
You are going	You aren't going	Are you going?
They are going	They aren't going	Are they going?

Note: alternative negative contractions: I'm not going, you're not going, he's not going etc.

Functions of the present continuous:

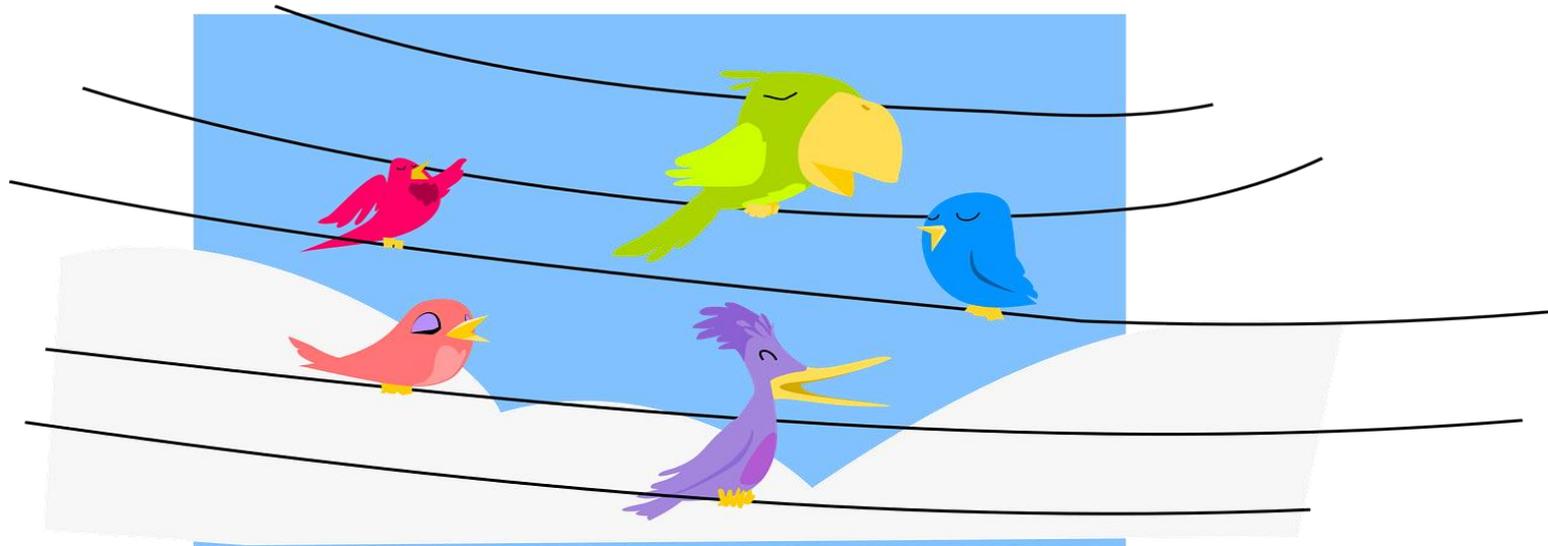
As with all tenses in English, the speaker's attitude is as important as the time of the action or event. When someone uses the present continuous, they are thinking about something that is unfinished or incomplete.

Δες το...αλλιώς

Present Continuous

The present continuous is used:

- to describe an action that is going on at this moment:
e.g. You are using the pc. You are studying math.
- to describe an action that is going on during this period of time or a trend:
e.g. Are you still working for the same people? More and more people are becoming vegetarian.
- to describe an action or event in the future, which has already been planned or prepared:
e.g. We're going on holiday tomorrow. I'm meeting my friend tonight. Are they visiting you next summer?
- to describe a temporary event or situation:
e.g. He usually plays the guitar, but he's playing drums tonight. The weather forecast was good, but it's raining at the moment.
- with "always, forever, constantly", to describe and emphasise a continuing series of repeated actions:
e.g. Mum and Dad are always arguing! You're constantly complaining about your friend!

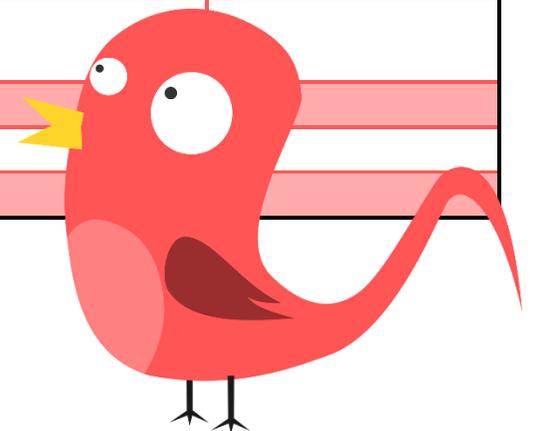


Δες το...αλλιώς

Present Continuous

Verbs that are not usually used in the continuous form: The verbs in the list below are normally used in the **simple form** because they refer to states, rather than actions or processes.

Senses / Perception	Opinion	Mental states	Emotions / desires	Measurement	Others
to feel*	to assume	to forget		to contain	to look (=resemble)
to hear	to believe	to imagine	to envy	to cost	to seem
to see*	to consider	to know	to fear	to hold	to be (in most cases)
to smell	to doubt	to mean	to dislike	to measure	to have (when it means "to possess")*
to taste	to feel (= to think)	to notice	to hate	to weigh	
to feel*	to find (= to consider)	to recognise	to hope	to contain	
	to suppose	to remember	to like	to cost	
	to think*	to understand	to love		
		to forget	to mind		
		to imagine	to prefer		
			to regret		



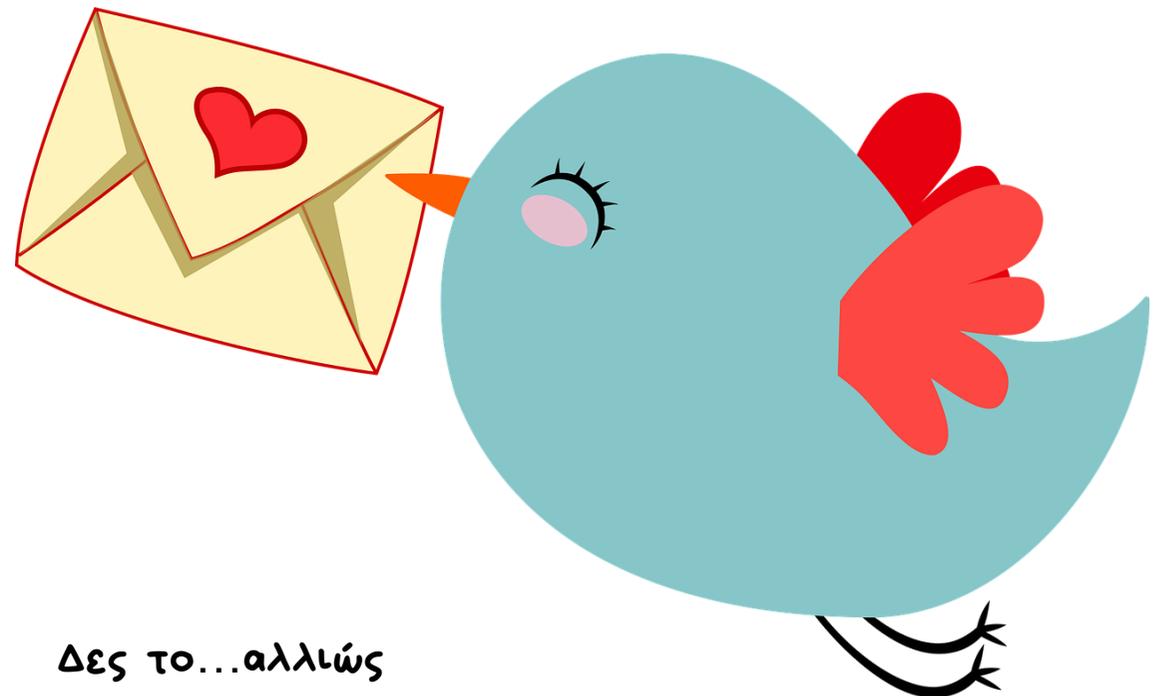
Δες το...αλλιώς

Present Continuous

Exceptions:

Perception verbs (see, hear, feel, taste, smell) are often used with can: I can see... These verbs may be used in the continuous form but with a different meaning. E.g.:

- ✓ This blanket feels nice and warm.
- ✓ Mary's feeling much better now.
- ✓ She has four dogs and a cat.
- ✓ She's having supper. (She's eating)
- ✓ I can see Tony in the garden.
- ✓ I'm seeing Keith later. (We are planning to meet)



Δες το...αλλιώς