

Contrastando tiempos continuos

Contrasting Continuous Tenses

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Abstract:

This will help students understand better how they can use continuous or progressive tenses in different ways to talk about things that are happening or that were happening in a present or past period of time.

Keywords:

continuous, progressive

Resumen:

Este cuadro ayudará a los estudiantes a entender mejor como pueden utilizar los tiempos continuos o progresivos en diferentes formas para hablar acerca de cosas que están sucediendo o estuvieron sucediendo en un periodo de tiempo.

Palabras Clave:

Continuos, progresivos

Desarrollo del tema	
PRESENT CONTINUOUS STRUCTURES	<i>I am watching T.V.</i> <i>He is watching T.V.</i> <i>They are watching T.V.</i>
KEY AFFIRMATIVE STRUCTURE Subject + verb (to be) + gerund verb + predicate *We use: I + am ('m), he/she/it + is ('s), we/you/they + are ('re).	S STRUCTURES KEY AFFIRMATIVE STRUCTURE Subject + verb (to be) + gerund verb + predicate *We use: I/he/she/it + was, we/you/they + were.
KEY NEGATIVE STRUCTURE Subject + verb (to be) + not + gerund verb + predicate <i>I am not watching T.V.</i> <i>He is not watching T.V.</i> <i>They are not watching T.V.</i> *We use: I + am not ('m not), he/she/it + is not (isn't), we/you/they + are not (aren't).	KEY NEGATIVE STRUCTURE Subject + verb (to be) + not + gerund verb + predicate <i>I was not watching T.V.</i> <i>He was not watching T.V.</i> <i>They were not watching T.V.</i> *We use: I/he/she/it + was (wasn't), we/you/they + were (weren't).
KEY INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE (YES/NO QUESTIONS) Verb (to be) + subject + gerund verb + predicate + ? <i>Am I watching T.V.?</i> Yes, I am. / No, I am not. <i>Is he watching T.V.?</i> Yes, he is. / No, he is not. <i>Are they watching T.V.?</i> Yes, they are. / No, they are not. *We use these questions for short answers: Yes/No.	KEY INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE (YES/NO QUESTIONS) Verb (to be) + subject + gerund verb + predicate + ? <i>Was I watching T.V.?</i> Yes, I was / No, I was not. <i>Was he watching T.V.?</i> Yes, he was. / No, he was not. <i>Were they watching T.V.?</i> Yes, they were. / No, they were not. *We use these questions for short answers: Yes/No.
KEY INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE (WH-QUESTIONS) WH-word + verb (to be) + subject + gerund verb + predicate +	KEY INTERROGATIVE STRUCTURE (WH-QUESTIONS) WH-word + verb (to be) + subject + gerund verb +

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<p>?</p> <p>Where am I watching T.V.? I am watching T.V. at home.</p> <p>When is he watching T.V.? He is watching T.V. all the afternoons.</p> <p>Why are they watching T.V.? They are watching T.V. because there is their favorite cartoon.</p> <p>*We use these questions for detailed answers specifying: place, time, reason, etc.</p>	<p>predicate + ?</p> <p>Where was I watching T.V.? I was watching T.V. at my grandma's house.</p> <p>When was he watching T.V.? He was watching T.V. all the day yesterday.</p> <p>Why were they watching T.V.? They were watching T.V. because there was their favorite movie.</p> <p>*We use these questions for detailed answers specifying: place, time, reason, etc.</p>
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PRESENT CONTINUOUS USE	PAST CONTINUOUS USE
<p>We use it to talk about temporary situations.</p> <p>Sarah is staying in a hotel in Greece.</p> <p>We use it to talk about actions now.</p> <p>Sarah isn't working right now, she is reading a book.</p> <p>*We can use time expressions like: <i>now, right now, at the moment.</i></p> <p>The machine isn't working <u>now</u>.</p> <p><u>Right now</u> they are resting.</p>	<p>We use it to talk about events around a time in the past.</p> <p>Jack was driving to his job, he wasn't sleeping at home.</p> <p>Jack and Paul were working last night.</p> <p>*We can use time expressions like: <i>yesterday, last night, last week, this morning.</i></p> <p>The machine wasn't working <u>yesterday</u>.</p> <p><u>This morning</u> they were resting.</p>
<p>KEY SPELLING RULES FOR VERBS</p> <p>Most verbs add "ing".</p> <p>Verbs that end in -e, delete -e and add "ing".</p> <p>One syllable verbs that end in consonant + vowel + consonant (not -w, -x, -y), double final consonant and add "ing".</p> <p>Two or more syllable verbs that end in consonant + vowel + consonant, double the last consonant only if it is stressed.</p> <p>*admit - admitting</p>	

Referencias

[1] Focus on Grammar 2, Students Book, Irene E. Schoenberg and Jay Maurer, 2012, Editorial PEARSON, 3rd Edition.

[2] Practical Grammar Level 1, David Riley & John Hughes, 2010, Heinle, Cengage Learning.