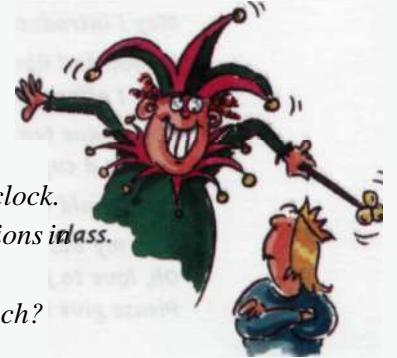




Simple + progressive aspect Grammar

f f O Discuss the difference in meaning between these sentences:

- 1 *When we got to the station the train had just left.*
When we got to the station the train was just leaving.
- 2 *He stood up when she entered the room.*
He was standing up when she entered the room.
- 3 *He usually prepares the meal when his wife gets home.*
He is usually preparing the meal when his wife gets home.
He has usually prepared the meal when his wife gets home.
- A *I've been reading your book.* *I've read your book.*
- 5 *I'm not having dinner until 8 o'clock.* *I don't have dinner until 8 o'clock.*
- 6 *They always ask questions in class.* *They're always asking questions in class.*
- 7 *We'll be having breakfast at 7.30.* *We'll have breakfast at 7.30.*
- 8 *Will you join us for lunch?* *Will you be joining us for lunch?*
- 9 *I think you're being silly.* *I think you're silly.*



B Look at these pairs of sentences, each of which illustrates how simple and progressive verb forms are used. Follow these steps for each numbered pair:

- 1 First, look at the verbs in **red** and make sure you understand **WHY** that particular form is used.
- 2 Fill the gaps in the sentence that follows.
- 3 Write a similar example of your own for each rule illustrated.
(Number 1 has already been done to show you what to do.)

Present simple or present progressive: does or is doing

- 1 Please **don't phone** me while I'm **having** dinner.
I usually read the newspaper while I'm having breakfast.
He often listens to the radio while he's doing the washing-up. (your own example)
- 2 Most days she **has** lunch at her desk but today she's **eating** out.
I usually [] pancakes with honey, but today [] them with sugar, for a change.
- 3 When the sketch **begins**, a man **arrives** at a restaurant and **starts** eating.
In the end, the man [] so much that he [].
- 4 When **are** you **having** dinner this evening?
What time [] your friends [] tomorrow?

Past simple or past progressive: did or was doing

- 5 I **didn't want** to phone her while she **was having** dinner.
She started to cough while she [] and nearly [].
- 6 I **was wondering** if you could tell me why you don't like her.
The meal isn't ready because I [] you to arrive so early.
- 7 He **didn't start** preparing dinner until his wife **got** home.
They [] the results of the exam until the end of the year.
- 8 Traffic **was diverted** because a new bridge **was being built**.
While the restaurant [] redecorated, it closed to the public.
- 9 He **was just finishing** dinner when his wife **got** home from work.
When the guests [], he [] still a bath.



Present perfect simple or progressive: *has done or has been doing*

- 10 I **have been reading** this book for a week but I've only **read** 23 pages so far.
How long has she _____ English and how many words has she _____ ?
- 11 They **have been living** / they **have lived** in London for two years.
My friend _____ in London all her life / since she was a baby.
- 12 The restaurant is closed because the cook **has been taken** to hospital.
Mmm! These carrots are delicious – have _____ steamed or boiled?

Future: *will do or will be doing*

- 13 What **will you be doing** tomorrow evening? **Will you be waiting** for your guests to arrive?
What **will you do** if they're late?
This time tomorrow I _____ and when I've done that I _____, I expect.
- 14 **Will you be coming** with us or are you busy tonight?
Could you phone us later on to let us know what time you _____ ?
- 15 **Will you come** with us? We'd love you to be there.
_____ you help me with the washing-up, please?

Find the errors in these sentences and correct them.

One sentence has NO errors.

- 1 We are usually having lunch out on Sundays.
- 2 We can take a picnic but what will we be doing if it starts to rain?
- 3 She stayed at home because she was having a cold.
- 4 While I drove along I suddenly remembered that I had left the freezer door open.
- 5 The last time I saw him he was getting on a bus, eating an ice cream.
- 6 Breakfast is normally being served in the dining room but today it is served in the coffee shop.
- 7 Who is this recipe book that's lying on the table belonging to?
- 8 She was disliking vegetarian food at first but now she's enjoying it whenever she has been having it.



Find out about your partners' experiences of different kinds of food and drink, using the questions below.

- Unusual foods they have eaten - vegetables, fruit, fish, sauces, salads, sweets, cakes, etc.
- Different cuisines - vegetarian, French, Italian, Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Greek, etc.
- Strange things they have eaten - for breakfast, lunch, dinner, supper, evenings, tea, etc.
- Strange drinks they have drunk - hot/cold, alcoholic/soft
- Different kinds of meals - banquets, buffets, picnics, etc.

Have you ever . . . ?
When did you first . . . ?
How many times have you . . . ?
How often . . . ?

Do you ever . . . ?
How long have you . . . ?
When do you . . . ?
What was it like exactly?

