



Present Continuous: Spelling

The present continuous tense is: *am / is / are + verb + -ing* (the present participle).

To make the present participle with most verbs, you add *-ing* to the verb:

walk --> walking

go --> going

try --> trying

For some verbs, there are spelling rules:

one vowel + one consonant --> double the consonant, add *-ing*

get --> getting

run --> running

one vowel + one consonant + *e* --> remove the *e* and add *-ing*

give --> giving

take --> taking

ends in *ie* --> remove the *ie*, add *y*

die --> dying

lie --> lying

Here are some rules for some other verbs:

The consonant is doubled in words of more than one syllable, if the last syllable is stressed.

forget --> forgetting

The consonant isn't usually doubled in an unstressed syllable.

open --> opening

There are some differences between British and American English, e.g. *travelling* (British English) *traveling* (American English).



Exercise

Write the *-ing* forms (present participles) of these verbs:

walk _____

talk _____

go _____

hold _____

teach _____

spend _____

cry _____

sleep _____

run _____

hop _____

jump _____

stop _____

begin _____

forget _____

hope _____

take _____

drive _____

write _____

rise _____

die _____

Answers

walking, talking, going, holding, teaching, spending, crying, sleeping, running, hopping, jumping, stopping, beginning, forgetting, hoping, taking, driving, writing, rising, dying.

