

Topic 1: Present, Past, Future Continuous Tense

Chapter 1: Tenses and Voice · Topic 1

Key Concept

Present continuous tense describes actions happening right now, like 'I am reading' or 'She is playing.'

Past continuous tense describes actions that were ongoing at a specific time in the past, like 'I was reading when she called.'

Future continuous tense describes actions that will be ongoing at a specific time in the future, like 'I will be reading at 8 PM.'

The continuous tense emphasises the ongoing nature of an action, distinguishing it from simple tenses that state completed or habitual actions.

Quick Revision Notes

- Present continuous: happening now.
- Example: 'I am reading.'
- Past continuous: ongoing at a past time.
- Example: 'I was reading when she called.'
- Future continuous: ongoing at a future time.
- Example: 'I will be reading at 8 PM.'
- Continuous tense: uses is/am/are/was/were + -ing.
- It emphasises ongoing action.

Practice Questions

- 1 Write a sentence in present continuous tense.
- 2 Write a sentence in past continuous tense.
- 3 Write a sentence in future continuous tense.
- 4 Change 'I play' to present continuous.
- 5 Identify the tense in 'She was singing.'
- 6 Write a paragraph describing an ongoing activity.