

English Grammar In Use

*A reference and
practice book for
intermediate students*

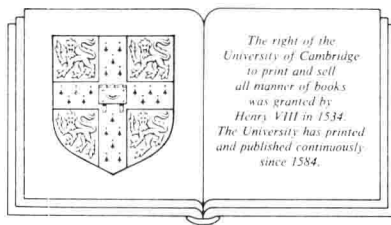
Raymond Murphy

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for intermediate students

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Introduction

English Grammar in Use is a book for intermediate students of English who need to study and practise using the grammar of the language. It was originally conceived as a self-study reference and practice book but can also be incorporated into classroom teaching. It will be especially useful in cases where, in the teacher's view, existing course materials do not provide adequate coverage of grammar.

Level

The book is intended mainly for intermediate students (that is students who have already studied the basic structures of English). It concentrates on those structures which intermediate students want to use but which often cause difficulty. The book will probably be most useful at middle- and upper-intermediate levels (where all or nearly all of the material will be relevant), and can serve both as a basis for revision and as a means of practising new material. The book will also be useful for more advanced students who still make a lot of grammatical mistakes and who need a book for reference and practice.

The book is not intended to be used by elementary students.

How the book is organised

The book consists of 130 units, each of which concentrates on a particular point of grammar. Some areas (for example, the present perfect or the use of articles) are covered in more than one unit. In each unit there are explanations and examples (left-hand page) and exercises (right-hand page), except for Unit 117, which is a double unit.

At the beginning of the book the *Contents* pages provide a full list of units and there is a detailed *Index* at the end for easy reference.

There are also five *Appendices* at the end of the book: List of present and past tenses, Regular and irregular verbs, Spelling, Short forms and American English. It might be useful for the teacher to draw students' attention to these.


Using the book

It is certainly not intended that anyone should work through this book from beginning to end. It is for the teacher to decide what to teach and in what order to teach it, so the book is best used selectively and flexibly.

The book can be used with the whole class or with individual students. When using the book with the whole class, it is suggested that the teacher teaches the grammar points concerned in whatever way he/she wants. In this case the left-hand page is not used actively during the lesson but serves as a record of what has been taught and can be referred to by the student in the future. The exercises can then be done in class or as homework. Alternatively (and additionally), individual students can be directed to study certain units of the book by themselves if they have particular difficulties not shared by other students in their class.

UNIT 1 Present continuous (I am doing)

a) Study this example situation:



Ann is in her car. She is on her way to work.
She **is driving** to work.
This means: she is driving now, at the time of speaking.
This is the *present continuous* tense:

I am (= I'm)	}	driving
he/she/(it) is (= he 's etc.)		
we/they/you are (= we're etc.)		

We use the present continuous when we talk about something which is happening at the time of speaking:

- Please don't make so much noise. **I'm studying**. (*not* 'I study')
- 'Where is Margaret?' 'She's **having** a bath.' (*not* 'she has')
- Let's go out now. It **isn't raining** any more.
- (*at a party*) Hello, Ann. **Are you enjoying** the party? (*not* 'do you enjoy')

b) We also use the present continuous when we talk about something which is happening around the time of speaking, but not necessarily exactly at the time of speaking. Study this example situation:

- Tom and Ann are talking and drinking in a café. Tom says: '**I'm reading** an interesting book at the moment. I'll lend it to you when I've finished it.'

Tom is not reading the book at the time of speaking. He means that he has begun the book and hasn't finished it yet. He is in the middle of reading it. Here are some more examples:

- Silvia **is learning** English at the moment. (*not* 'learns')
- Have you heard about Tom? He **is building** his own house. (*not* 'builds')

But perhaps Silvia and Tom are not doing these things exactly at the time of speaking.

c) We often use the present continuous when we talk about a period around the present. For example: **today, this season** etc.:

- 'You're **working hard today**.' 'Yes, I have a lot to do.'
- Tom **isn't playing football this season**. He wants to concentrate on his studies.

d) We use the present continuous when we talk about changing situations:

- The population of the world **is rising** very fast. (*not* 'rises')
- Is your English **getting** better? (*not* 'does ... get')

UNIT 1 Exercises

1.1 In this exercise you have to put the verb into the correct form.

Examples: Please don't make so much noise. I am studying (study).

Let's go out now. It isn't raining (not/rain) any more.

Listen to those people. What language are they speaking (they/speak) ?

- 1 Please be quiet. I (try) to concentrate.
 - 2 Look! It (snow).
 - 3 Why (you/look) at me like that? Have I said something wrong?
 - 4 You (make) a lot of noise. Can you be a bit quieter?
 - 5 Excuse me, I (look) for a phone box. Is there one near here?
 - 6 (*in the cinema*) It's a good film, isn't it? (you/enjoy) it?
 - 7 Listen! Can you hear those people next door? They (shout) at each other again.
 - 8 Why (you/wear) your coat today? It's very warm.
 - 9 I (not/work) this week. I'm on holiday.
 - 10 I want to lose weight. I (not/eat) anything today.
-

1.2 Complete these sentences using one of these verbs:

get become change rise improve fall increase

You don't have to use all the verbs and you can use some of them more than once.

Example: The population of the world is rising very fast.

- 1 The number of people without jobs at the moment.
 - 2 He is still ill but he better slowly.
 - 3 These days food more and more expensive.
 - 4 The world Things never stay the same.
 - 5 The cost of living Every year things are dearer.
 - 6 George has gone to work in Spain. When he arrived, his Spanish wasn't very good but now it
 - 7 The economic situation is already very bad and it worse.
-

1.3 Read this conversation between Brian and Steve. Put each verb into the correct form. The first one has already been done for you.

Brian and Steve meet in a restaurant:

Brian: Hello, Steve. I haven't seen you for ages. What (1) are you doing (you/do) these days?

Steve: I (2) am training (train) to be a shop manager.

Brian: Really? (3) Are you (you/enjoy) it?

Steve: Yes, it's quite interesting. How about you?

Brian: Well, I (4) am not working (not/work) at the moment, but I'm very busy.

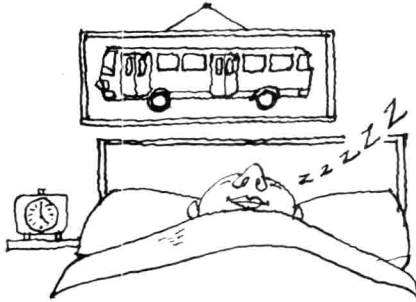
I (5) am building (build) a house.

Steve: Really? (6) Are you doing (you/do) it alone?

Brian: No, some friends of mine (7) are helping (help) me.

UNIT 2 Present simple (I do)

a) Study this example situation:

	<p>Alex is a bus driver. But now he is asleep in bed. So: He is <i>not</i> driving a bus (he is asleep). <i>But:</i> He drives a bus. This is the <i>present simple</i> tense: I/we/you/they drive he/she/(it) drives</p>
---	--

We use the present simple to talk about things in general. We are not thinking only about the present. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general. It is not important whether the action is happening at the time of speaking:

- The earth **goes** round the sun.
- Nurses **look** after patients in hospitals.
- In Britain most of the shops **close** at 5.30 p.m.

Remember that we say **he/she/it -s**. Don't forget the s:

- I **work** in a bank. Barry **works** in a shop.

b) We use **do/does** to make questions and negative sentences:

<table> <tr> <td>do</td> <td>I/we/you/they</td> <td rowspan="2">} work?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>does</td> <td>he/she/it</td> </tr> </table>	do	I/we/you/they	} work?	does	he/she/it	<table> <tr> <td>I/we/you/they</td> <td>don't</td> <td rowspan="2">} work</td> </tr> <tr> <td>he/she/it</td> <td>doesn't</td> </tr> </table>	I/we/you/they	don't	} work	he/she/it	doesn't
do	I/we/you/they	} work?									
does	he/she/it										
I/we/you/they	don't	} work									
he/she/it	doesn't										

- Excuse me, **do** you **speak** English?
- 'Would you like a cigarette?' 'No, thanks. I **don't** **smoke**.'
- **What** **does** this word **mean**? (*not* 'What means this word?')
- Rice **doesn't** **grow** in Britain.

For questions see also Unit 49.

c) We use the present simple when we say how often we do things:

- I **get** up at 8 o'clock **every morning**. (*not* 'am getting')
- **How often** **do** you **go** to the dentist?
- Ann **doesn't** **often** **drink** tea.
- In summer Tom **usually** **plays** tennis **twice a week**.

d) Note that we say 'Where **do** you **come** from?' (= Where are you from?):

- Where **do** you **come** from? (*not* 'Where are you coming from?')
- He **comes** from Japan. (*not* 'He is coming from Japan.')

e) When you make a *suggestion*, you can say **Why don't you ...?**:

- 'I'm tired.' 'Why **don't** you **go** to bed early?'

UNIT 2 Exercises

2.1 In this exercise you have to put the verb into the correct form.

Examples: Water boils (boil) at 100 degrees centigrade.
George doesn't go (not/go) to the cinema very often.
How many languages do you speak (you/speak)?

- 1 The swimming bath opens (open) at 9.00 and closes (close) at 18.30 every day.
- 2 What time the banks close (the banks / close) in Britain?
- 3 I have a car but I don't use (not/use) it very often.
- 4 How many cigarettes do you smoke (you/smoke) a day?
- 5 'What do you do (you/do)?' 'I'm an electrical engineer.'
- 6 'Where comes your father (your father / come) from?' 'He comes from Sc (come) from Scotland.'
- 7 If you need money, why don't you get (you/not/get) a job?
- 8 I play (play) the piano, but I don't play (not/play) very well.
- 9 I don't understand the word 'deceive'. What means deceive ('deceive' / mean)?

2.2 This time you have to read some sentences and correct them. The English is correct but the information is wrong. Write two correct sentences each time.

Example: The sun goes round the earth. The sun doesn't go round the earth.
The earth goes round the sun.

- 1 The sun rises in the west. The sun doesn't rise in the west.
The sun rises in the north.
- 2 Mice catch cats. Mice doesn't catch cats. Cats catch mice.
- 3 Carpenters make things from metal. Carpenters don't make things from metal.
Metal make things from carpenters.
- 4 The River Amazon flows into the Pacific Ocean. The River Amazon doesn't flow into the P.O.
OP. flows into the R.A.

2.3 Now you have to use these sentences to make questions. Begin your question with the word(s) in brackets.

Examples: Tom plays tennis. (How often?) How often does Tom play tennis?
I get up in the morning. (What time / usually?) What time do you usually get up?

- 1 Ann watches television. (How often?) How often does Ann watch TV?
- 2 I write to my parents. (How often?) How often do you write to your parents?
- 3 I have dinner in the evening? (What time / usually?) What time do you usually have dinner?
- 4 Tom works. (Where?) Where does Tom work?
- 5 I go to the cinema. (How often?) How often do you go to the cinema?
- 6 People do stupid things. (Why?) Why do people do stupid things?
- 7 The car breaks down. (How often?) How often does the car break down?

UNIT 3 Present continuous (I am doing) or present simple (I do)?

Before you study this unit, study Units 1 and 2.

a) Study this explanation and compare the examples:

<p><i>Present continuous (I am doing)</i> Use the present continuous to talk about something which is happening at or around the time of speaking:</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>The kettle is boiling. Can you turn it off, please? Listen to those people. What language are they speaking? 'Where's Tom?' 'He's playing tennis.' (<i>you find a stranger in your room</i>) What are you doing here? Silvia is in Britain for three months. She's learning English.</p> <p>Use the present continuous for a <i>temporary</i> situation: I'm living with some friends until I can find a flat. That machine isn't working. It broke down this morning.</p>	<p><i>Present simple (I do)</i> Use the present simple to talk about things in general or things which happen repeatedly:</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius. Excuse me, do you speak English? Tom plays tennis every Saturday. What do you usually do at weekends? What do you do? (= What's your job?) Most people learn to swim when they are children.</p> <p>Use the present simple for a <i>permanent</i> situation: My parents live in London. They have been there for 20 years. That machine doesn't work. It hasn't worked for years.</p>
--	--

b) Some verbs are used only in *simple* tenses. For example, you cannot say 'I am knowing'. You can only say **I know**. Here is a list of verbs which are not normally used in *continuous* tenses (but there are exceptions):

want	like	belong	know	suppose	remember
need	love	see	realise	mean	forget
prefer	hate	hear	believe	understand	seem

have (when the meaning is 'possess' – see also Unit 24)

think (when the meaning is 'believe')

- Do you **like** London? (*not* 'are you liking')
 - He **doesn't understand**. (*not* 'he isn't understanding')
 - These shoes **belong** to me. (*not* 'are belonging')
 - What **do you think** Tom will do? (= What do you believe he will do?)
- but:* What **are you thinking** about? (= What is going on in your mind?)

UNIT 3 Exercises

3.1 In this exercise you have to decide whether the verbs in these sentences are right or wrong. Correct those which are wrong. The verb is underlined.

Examples: I don't know your telephone number.

Please don't make so much noise. I study.

RIGHT

WRONG - am studying.

- 1 Look! Somebody is climbing up that tree over there.
- 2 Can you hear those people? What do they talk about?
- 3 Are you believing in God?
- 4 Look! That man tries to open the door of your car.
- 5 The moon goes round the earth.
- 6 I'm thinking it would be a good idea to leave early.
- 7 The government is worried because the number of people without jobs is increasing.
- 8 I'm usually going to work by car.

R
 W - What they are talk
 W Do you believe
 R
 W I think
 W are increase
 W go

3.2 Now you have to put the verb into the correct form, present continuous (I am doing) or present simple (I do).

Examples: Please don't make so much noise. I am studying (study).

How many languages does Tom speak (Tom/speak)?

This machine doesn't work (not/work). It hasn't worked for years.

- 1 I don't belong (not/belong) to a political party.
- 2 Hurry! The bus is leaving (come). I don't want (not/want) to miss it.
- 3 The River Nile flows (flow) into the Mediterranean.
- 4 The river is flowing (flow) very fast today - much faster than usual.
- 5 Is it ever snowing (it/ever/snow) in India?
- 6 We usually grow (grow) vegetables in our garden but this year we don't grow (not/grow) any.
- 7 A: Can you drive?
 B: No, but I am learning (learn). My father teaches (teach) me.
- 8 You can borrow my umbrella. I don't need (not/need) it at the moment.
- 9 (at a party) I usually enjoy (enjoy) parties but I don't enjoy (not/enjoy) this one very much.
- 10 George says he's 80 years old but I don't believe (not/believe) him.
- 11 Ron is in London at the moment. He is staying (stay) at the Hilton Hotel. He usually stays (stay) at the Hilton Hotel when he's in London.

In these sentences think about whether the situation is temporary or permanent.

- 12 My parents live (live) in Bristol. They were born there and have never lived anywhere else. Where are they living (your parents / live)?
- 13 She is staying (stay) with her sister at the moment until she finds somewhere to live.
- 14 A: What is your father doing (your father / do)?
 B: He's a teacher, but he isn't working (not/work) at the moment.

UNIT 4 Present tenses (**I am doing / I do**) with a future meaning

- a) *Present continuous* with a future meaning
Study this example situation:

SUN	THURS
MON TENNIS 2pm	FRI DINNER WITH ANN 8pm
TUES DENTIST 10.10	SAT
WED	

This is Tom's diary for next week.

He is **playing** tennis on Monday afternoon.
He is **going** to the dentist on Tuesday morning.
He is **having** dinner with Ann on Friday.

In all these examples, Tom has already decided and arranged to do these things.

When you are talking about what you have already arranged to do, use the present continuous (**I am doing**). Do *not* use the present simple (**I do**).

- A: What **are you doing** tomorrow evening? (*not* 'what do you do')
- B: I'm **going** to the theatre. (*not* 'I go')
- A: **Are you playing** football tomorrow?
- B: Yes, but Tom **isn't playing**. He has hurt his leg.
- A: Ann **is coming** tomorrow.
- B: Oh, is she? What time **is she arriving**?
- A: At 10.15.
- B: **Are you meeting** her at the station?
- A: I can't. I'm **working** tomorrow morning.

It is also possible to use **going to (do)** in these sentences:

- What **are you going to do** tomorrow evening?
- Tom **is going to play** tennis on Monday afternoon.

But the present continuous is usually more natural when you are talking about arrangements. See also Unit 5.

Do *not* use **will** to talk about what you have arranged to do:

- What **are you doing** this evening? (*not* 'what will you do')
- Alex **is getting** married next month. (*not* 'Alex will get')

- b) *Present simple* with a future meaning

We use the present simple when we are talking about timetables, programmes etc. (for example, for public transport, cinemas):

- What time **does** the film **begin**?
- The train **leaves** Plymouth at 10.30 and **arrives** in London at 13.45.
- The football match **starts** at 8 o'clock.
- Tomorrow **is** Wednesday.

But we do not normally use the present simple for personal arrangements:

- What time **are you meeting** Ann? (*not* 'do you meet')

UNIT 4 Exercises

4.1 A friend of yours is planning to go on holiday very soon. You ask him about his plans. Use the words in brackets to make your questions.

Example: (where / go?) Where are you going?

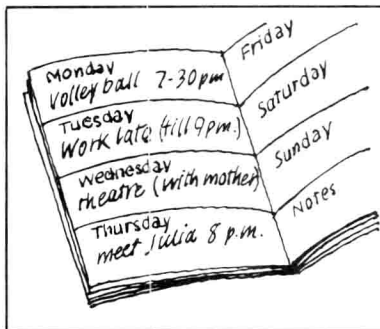
- 1 (how long / stay?) How long are you staying? 4 (go / by car?) Are u going by car?
 2 (when / leave?) When are you leaving? 5 (where / stay?) Where are u staying?
 3 (go / alone?) Are u going alone?

4.2 Ann is going on holiday. You have to write sentences about her holiday plans. Use the words in brackets to write your sentences.

Example: (go / Scotland) She is going to Scotland.

- 1 (leave / next Friday) She is leaving on next Friday
 2 (stay / in Scotland for two weeks) She is staying in Sc. for two weeks
 3 (go / with a friend of hers) Ann going with a friend of hers mother.
 4 (stay / in a hotel) They are staying in hotel
 5 (go / by train) They are going by train

4.3 Tom wants you to visit him but you are very busy. Look at your diary for the next few days and explain to him why you can't come.



- Tom: Can you come on Monday evening?
 You: Sorry, I'd love to but I'm playing volleyball.
 Tom: What about Tuesday evening then?
 You: I can't I'm afraid. I (1) 'm working
 Tom: Well, what are you doing on Wednesday evening?
 You: (2) 'm going with my mother to Theatre.
 Tom: I see. Well, are you free on Thursday evening?
 You: I'm afraid not. (3) I'm meeting with Julia on Thursday evening

4.4 Put the verb into the most suitable form, present continuous (I am doing) or present simple (I do).

Examples: We are going (go) to the theatre this evening.
Does the film begin (the film / begin) at 3.30 or 4.30?

- 1 We are having (have) a party next Saturday. Would you like to come?
 2 I don't go (not/go) away for my holidays next month because I haven't got enough money. Do u go (you/go) away?
 3 The concert this evening starts (start) at 7.30.
 4 George, is it true that you are getting (get) married next week?
 5 The art exhibition opens (open) on 3 May and finishes (finish) on 15 July.
 6 What time leaves the next train (the next train / leave)?
 7 Ann, we are going (go) to town. Do you come (you/come) with us?