English Grammar
Stories and Exercises
The Progressive Tenses Series
Present Progressive

Sample Chapter

By Really Learn English
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Present Progressive, Story 1

Before Reading

A) Look at the title of the story and the picture. What do you think this story is about?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

B) Match the words in column A to the words in column B. (There can be more than one correct answer.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>change</td>
<td>class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teach</td>
<td>daydream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enjoy</td>
<td>costume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tap</td>
<td>red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imagine</td>
<td>boring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>get</td>
<td>chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sit</td>
<td>lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dance</td>
<td>leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find</td>
<td>on stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spin</td>
<td>foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column A</td>
<td>Column B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have</td>
<td>fast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shout</td>
<td>costume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beat</td>
<td>Bravo!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk</td>
<td>a bow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wear</td>
<td>feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>close</td>
<td>show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kick</td>
<td>a lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finish</td>
<td>eyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take</td>
<td>embarrassed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feel</td>
<td>fun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a bit</td>
<td>the air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in front</td>
<td>boring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>so much</td>
<td>the cameras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through</td>
<td>of the room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with</td>
<td>her imagination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>just</td>
<td>concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>their feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on</td>
<td>class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for</td>
<td>enjoying</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C) After these exercises, what do you think this story is about?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
Present Progressive, Story 1

Dancing in Class

Georgia is sitting in class. Her professor is standing in front of the room. He is talking. He is talking a lot. Georgia thinks he is always talking a lot! She is finding the class a bit boring.

In Georgia’s mind, she is doing something else. In Georgia’s imagination, she is not sitting in class. She is dancing on a stage in front of hundreds of people. She is wearing a beautiful costume. She is tapping. She is twirling. She is spinning on one leg.

The stage lights are shining in her eyes. She is closing her eyes and concentrating on the music. She is having so much fun! Her heart is beating fast.

The music is changing. She is changing costumes. Now she is dancing again. She is kicking her feet. She is leaping. She is flying through the air.

Soon, she is finishing her show. The audience is standing on their feet. They are clapping and shouting, “Bravo! Bravo!” Georgia is taking a bow. Georgia is smiling for the cameras. “Bravo! Bravo!” She is having so much fun!

“Georgia?”

Georgia’s classmates are staring at her.

“Georgia?” her professor is saying, looking at her with concern. He is not teaching anymore.

“Yes?” Georgia is feeling a bit embarrassed. Her cheeks are getting red.

“Are you feeling okay? You are shouting ‘Bravo! Bravo!’ in class.”

"Oh, yes, professor. Sorry. I am just enjoying the class so much! Bravo! Bravo!"
Present Progressive, Story 1

After Reading

Grammar—Correct Form of the Verb

A) This is a copy of the original story. Go over it and fill in the blanks with the right form of every verb.

Georgia ________________ (sit) in class. Her professor ________________ (stand) in front of the room. He ________________ (talk). He ________________ (talk) a lot. Georgia thinks he ________________ (always talk) a lot! She ________________ (find) the class a bit boring.

In Georgia’s mind, she ________________ (do) something else. In Georgia’s imagination, she ________________ (not sit) in class. She ________________ (dance) on a stage in front of hundreds of people. She ________________ (wear) a beautiful costume. She ________________ (tap). She ________________ (twirl). She ________________ (spin) on one leg.

The stage lights ________________ (shine) in her eyes. She ________________ (close) her eyes and ________________ (concentrate) on the music. She ________________ (have) so much fun! Her heart ________________ (beat) fast.

The music ________________ (change). She ________________ (change) costumes. Now she
(dance) again. She (kick) her feet. She (leap). She (fly) through the air.

Soon, she (finish) her show. The audience (stand) on their feet. They (clap) and (shout), “Bravo! Bravo!” Georgia (take) a bow. Georgia (smile) for the cameras. “Bravo! Bravo!” She (have) so much fun!

“Georgia?”

Georgia’s classmates (stare) at her.

“Georgia?” her professor (say), (look) at her with concern. He (not / teach) anymore.

“Yes?” Georgia (feel) a bit embarrassed. Her cheeks (get) red.

“(you feel) okay? You (shout) ‘Bravo! Bravo!’ in class.”

"Oh, yes, professor. Sorry. I (just enjoy) the class so much! Bravo! Bravo!"
Vocabulary—Find the Right Word

B) Read the description and write down what it is. Use the box below for help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>class</th>
<th>eyes</th>
<th>stage</th>
<th>costume</th>
<th>heart</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bow</td>
<td>concern</td>
<td>room</td>
<td>show</td>
<td>camera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. It is a closed space inside a building. What is it? ____________
2. You use them to see. You can close them. What are they? ____________
3. It is a place where students learn things. What is it? ____________
4. You use it to take pictures. What is it? ____________
5. It is like worry. You can feel it for someone. What is it? ____________
6. It is an open, flat space for giving performances. What is it? ____________
7. It pumps blood around your entire body. What is it? ____________
8. It is a way to bend down to say thank you. What is it? ____________
9. You wear it for a performance or for fun. What is it? ____________
10. It is a performance, a concert, or a TV program. What is it? ____________
Grammar—Sentence Structure

C) The following sentences are all mixed up. Put the words on each line in the correct order to make a logical sentence.

1. audience feet The their is on standing.

2. at are Georgia’s classmates her staring.

3. leg on She spinning is one.

Grammar—Questions, Negative Sentences, and Positive Sentences

D) Turn the following sentences into questions.

1. Georgia is finding the class a bit boring.

2. She is changing costumes.

3. They are clapping and shouting.
E) Turn the following sentences into negative sentences.

1. Georgia is smiling.

________________________________________________________________

2. I am enjoying the class.

________________________________________________________________

3. The professor is standing.

________________________________________________________________

F) Turn the following sentences into positive sentences.

1. The professor is not talking a lot.

________________________________________________________________

2. Are the lights shining in her eyes?

________________________________________________________________

3. Is she having fun?

________________________________________________________________
Comprehension

G) Answer the following questions.

1. Where is Georgia? What is she doing?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. How is Georgia feeling about the professor’s lesson?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

3. What is Georgia doing in her imagination?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

4. Why does Georgia say she is shouting “Bravo!” in class?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
Essay Writing

H) Answer the following questions. Write a short essay for each.

1. Georgia is thinking about dancing. Maybe the other students are imagining other situations, too! What are they imagining?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. Imagine that you are in a very boring situation, maybe waiting for a train. What are you doing in your imagination?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
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