

Continuous aspect

<p>1</p> <p>How long have you <i>learned / been learning</i> English?</p> <hr/> <p><i>have you been learning</i> - This is unfinished.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>What job <i>were you doing / did you do</i> before you started your current one?</p> <hr/> <p><i>did you do</i> - This is complete.</p>	<p>3</p> <p><i>Do you do / are you doing</i> anything interesting at work this week?</p> <hr/> <p><i>Are you doing</i> - This is a temporary action 'around now'.</p>
<p>4</p> <p><i>Do you think / Are you thinking</i> I could borrow your notes for a minute?</p> <hr/> <p><i>Do you think</i> - <i>Think</i> is a state verb in this example.</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Do you think / Are you thinking</i> of taking any other courses?</p> <hr/> <p><i>Are you thinking</i> - <i>Think</i> means <i>consider</i> in this example.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Do you think life <i>is getting / generally gets</i> better for young people?</p> <hr/> <p><i>is getting</i> - This is a situation in the process of changing.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Have you <i>lived / been living</i> here all your life?</p> <hr/> <p><i>lived</i> - 'all your life' is a more permanent situation.</p>	<p>8</p> <p><i>We hope / are hoping</i> to go abroad in the summer. How about you?</p> <hr/> <p>Either one is possible.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>I <i>live / am living</i> with my parents until I get a flat of my own. How about you?</p> <hr/> <p><i>am living</i> - This is a temporary situation.</p>
<p>10</p> <p>I <i>wondered / was wondering</i> if I could stay at your house tonight? I've lost my key.</p> <hr/> <p><i>was wondering</i> - This sounds more tentative - it's a difficult request.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>My neighbours <i>are always playing / always play</i> music late at night.</p> <hr/> <p><i>are always playing</i> This suggests annoyance.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>What <i>do you think / are you thinking</i> of Donald Trump?</p> <hr/> <p><i>do you think</i> <i>Think</i> is a state verb when used for opinions.</p>

13

Do you think / Are you thinking
I could borrow your notes for a
minute?

*do you think Think is a state
verb here.*

14

How long *have you known /
been knowing* the person on
your left?

*have you known know is a
state verb here.*

15

I *consider / am considering*
buying a flat but the prices are
so high.

*am considering This is a plan
that is not definite.*

16

*Do you consider / are you
considering* yourself to be
lucky in any way?

*Do you consider Consider
means think or believe and is
a state.*

17

Where were you and what *did
you do / were you doing* at 8
o'clock last night?

*were you doing This is an
action in progress at a
particular time*

18

I'm so stupid! I *'m always
having to / always have to* look
up new words in the dictionary
ten times or more.

*I'm always having to This
suggests annoyance /
irritation.*