



Teaching Tricky Grammar: Progressive Form

Takeaways from the video:

- ▶ A detailed explanation of the progressive form of verbs to improve teachers' understanding
- ▶ Reference to key grammatical terminology including auxiliary verb, participle and tense
- ▶ Teaching and learning examples that can be easily replicated for use with pupils

Press Pause Questions:

Slide 3

Can you identify the verbs in each of these sentences?

I have black hair.

Ravi plays the guitar.

Demi is a doctor.

Slide 5

Which of the following are *being* verbs?
am, are, be, being, been, is, was, were

Slide 13

Can you identify the tense of each sentence?

The boy chases the dog.

The boy chased the dog.

The boy is chasing the dog.

The boy was chasing the dog.

The boy and the dog are playing chase.

The boy and the dog were playing chase.

I am enjoying this story about the boy and the dog.

Slide 15

Can you transform the tense of these sentences from present progressive to past progressive?

The children are playing football on the field.

The teacher is watching them play.

The children are playing very skilfully.

Putting it into Practice

Find video clips of sporting events. Turn the sound off and ask children to provide commentaries using the present progressive e.g. "She is running down the wing." "The defender is chasing her." "She's heading for the goal...". Challenge children to retell each other's commentaries using the past progressive.

Find some busy pictures. Ask pupils to describe what is taking place in the picture e.g. "The children are playing in the park." "A boy is throwing a ball." "A girl is flying a kite.". Extend the task by asking children to write about what they see.



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Provide children with sentences or passages in the present progressive. Ask them to rewrite them in the past progressive. Reverse this activity so that children start with the past progressive and transform sentences or passages into the present progressive.

Review Question

Ask pupils to imagine what might be taking place in another part of the world right now. They should write these thoughts using the present perfect e.g. Children in Australia are putting on their pyjamas. They are brushing their teeth and having a bedtime story.