

En casa con la familia

GRAMÁTICA 2

Estar with prepositions

- **Estar** is used to describe how someone is feeling. It is an irregular verb.

yo	estoy	nosotros	estamos
tú	estás	vosotros	estáis
usted/él/ella	está	ustedes/ellos/ellas	están

- Use **estar** + a preposition to say where something or someone is in relation to something else. The preposition may be more than one word.

delante de	<i>in front of</i>	detrás de	<i>behind</i>
cerca de	<i>close to, near</i>	lejos de	<i>far from</i>
encima de	<i>on top of, above</i>	debajo de	<i>under(neath)</i>
al lado de	<i>next to</i>		

Mi gato está **encima de** la cama. *My cat is on top of the bed.*

- 20** Cristina's cousin has just come in the house and is looking for Cristina and her brother. Complete their conversation using the correct forms of **estar**.

—Cristina, ¿dónde (1) _____?

—Yo (2) _____ en el patio.

—¿Dónde (3) _____ tu hermano Juan?

—Él (4) _____ en el garaje.

—¿Ustedes siempre (5) _____ en la casa por la tarde?

—Sí, Juan y yo siempre (6) _____ en la casa a las cinco.

- 21** Read the following descriptions of Laura's room. Then, say in Spanish where the second item is in relation to the first.

MODELO La mesa no está al lado de la puerta. **La mesa está lejos de la puerta.**

1. La ventana no está detrás de la mesa.

2. La computadora no está debajo del escritorio.

3. El perro no está encima de la silla.

4. La planta no está cerca de la ventana.

Present progressive

In English Nouns The **present progressive** is the verb tense used to talk about what is happening *right now*. It is formed by combining the verb **to be** in the present tense with the **-ing** form, or **present participle**, of the main verb.

We **are reading** this novel.

It **is snowing**.

It can also be used to talk about future events.

Tomorrow **I'm leaving** for Perú. John **is going** next summer.

A Change the tense in the following sentences from present to present progressive.

1. I write letters. I am writing letters.

2. You watch the birds. _____

3. Cliff tells stories. _____

4. The sun shines. _____

5. She plays guitar. _____

6. We sing along. _____

In Spanish The **present progressive** also tells what is happening right now. It is formed by combining a present form of **estar** with the present participle. The present participle is formed by replacing **-ar** with **-ando** and **-er** or **-ir** with **-iendo**. For **-er** and **-ir** verbs whose stem ends in a vowel, **-iendo** changes to **-yendo**.

hablar → hablando

correr → corriendo

interrumpir → interrumpiendo

leer → leyendo

—¿Qué estás tomando?

—Estoy bebiendo un vaso de leche.

The present participles of stem-changing **-ir** verbs change **o** → **u** and **e** → **i**.

dormir → durmiendo

pedir → pidiendo

Pronouns can go before the conjugated form of **estar** or be attached to the end of the **-ndo** form. In the latter case, an accent mark must go over the stressed vowel.

—¿Estás sirviendo la cena?

—Sí, **la** estoy sirviendo. = Estoy sirviéndola.

—¿Estás afeitándote?

—Sí, **me** estoy afeitando. = Estoy afeitándome.

B Change the tense in the following sentences from present to present progressive.

1. Pepita habla por teléfono. Pepita está hablando por teléfono.

2. Se lavan las manos. _____

3. Yo me peino. _____

4. ¿Vendes todos tus CDs? _____

5. Claudia los compra. _____

6. Joaquín duerme en la sala. _____

PRESENT PROGRESSIVE

C Your best friend's sick and can't come to your birthday party, but is keeping on top of it by instant messaging. Tell him or her what's happening as it happens, using the present progressive. Use direct object pronouns in your responses.

1. ¿Cuándo van ustedes a hacer los preparativos?

Los estamos haciendo ahora. / Estamos haciéndolos ahora.

2. ¿Tu mamá va a preparar empanadas para la fiesta?

3. ¿Todos están celebrando tu cumpleaños ahora?

4. ¿Los invitados piden muchos pasteles en hoja?

5. ¿Tu hermana y tú van a servir galletas?

6. ¿No vas a leer las tarjetas de cumpleaños?

7. ¿No vas a enseñar las fotos de la última fiesta?

D Compare the following Spanish and English sentences.

a. No puedo hablar contigo, **estoy hablando** por teléfono.

I can't talk to you, I'm talking on the phone.

b. Mi madre **viene** esta noche. OR Mi madre **va a venir** esta noche.

My mother is coming this evening.

Why do you think Spanish doesn't use the present progressive in sentence **b**?

What time does each set of sentences refer to: right now or a later time?

Present Progressive

EXERCISE G

Pasatiempos (Pastimes) People spend a lot of time at their hobbies. Express what these people are doing right now.

EXAMPLE: Alfonso colecciona monedas. Alfonso **está coleccionando** monedas.

1. Luz y Adriana esquían en las montañas.

2. Yo practico el tenis.

3. Tú y Enzo juegan al ajedrez.

4. Nosotros asistimos a un concierto.

5. Gilda escribe poesías.

6. Tú sacas fotografías.

7. Emily hace yoga.

8. Mis hermanos corren en el parque.

-AR Present Progressive Practice #2

Nombre:

Clase:

Fecha:

DIRECTIONS: Write the correct present progressive form for each problem below.

1. I am having dinner.
2. She isn't walking.
3. Why are you (inf) helping?
4. Picasso is painting.
5. Tony Hawk is skating.
6. The teacher is preparing the test.
7. The boy isn't playing the violin.
8. My friend is visiting from Florida.
9. We are working tomorrow.
10. The dog and the cat are going for a walk.