

Chapter 17. 'Continuous' Tenses

Exercise. The following passage is taken from a commentary given on the Republic Day parade. Fill in the blanks with the **present continuous tense** of appropriate verbs. Take verbs from the box below:

sit	move	play	stand	clap
sit	wear	shine	carry	shower

I am Gagan Mehta reporting for the Doordarshan. I _____ near the India Gate. The sun _____ brightly and it is quite pleasant. The parade has already started. Six beautifully decked elephants _____ towards the India Gate. They are now in front of the dais where the President and the Chief Guest _____. The elephants _____ clanging bells and shining beads. They _____ musicians wearing brightly coloured turbans. The musician in the front _____ *shehnai*. A group of children _____ on the two elephants at the back. These children are the pride of our nation, for they have won bravery awards for showing outstanding courage. People _____ to cheer them up. A helicopter _____ petals on them.

Exercise 2. Fill in the blanks with the **simple present** or the **present continuous tense** of the verbs given in the brackets:

1. My dog _____ his tail whenever he is happy. (wag)

2. Father has patted the dog so lovingly!
That is why he _____ his tail.
(wag)



3. You have made an excellent tune. I _____ the song very much. (enjoy)

4. Usually I _____ Western music. (not enjoy)

5. We _____ our house painted since Diwali
_____. (get, approach fast)

6. Mrs Shukla _____ us Mathematics.
Today our Science teacher is absent, so she
_____ us Chemistry. (teach, teach)



7. Papa _____ for his purse. He _____ it somewhere and then _____ where he put it. (look, put, forget)

Exercise 3. Imagine that when you got up this morning and looked out of your window, this is what you saw. Write a paragraph describing all the things that were happening:



Exercise 4. Fill in the blanks with the proper form of the verbs in the **simple past** or the **past continuous tense**:

"You _____ (sing) so well! Why _____? (you stop)" _____ (ask) Meenal.

"I'm really sorry but I'll tell you what _____ (happen)," said Pooja.

"As I _____ (finish) the first song, the audience _____ (cheer) me up loudly. I _____ (feel) inspired. But suddenly my eyes _____ (fall) on a group of people who _____ (sit) at the back and _____ (laugh). My greatest critic, Swapna Awasthi, _____ (be) also among them. Swapna has never said a kind word about me. It suddenly _____ (strike) me that they _____ (make) fun of me. That _____ (put) me off. I could not sing after that."