

## The Present Continuous Tense

- “Then why are you asking me what it means?” (Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, 1982:144)
- “Tonight, he is snoring contentedly, while I am wide awake despite the half bottle of brandy.” (Lester, *shtum*, 2017:138)
- “You flew to Australia to find Piers Langley and are holding his hand while he sobers up. At least, I hope that’s what you are doing. He is such a dear friend- and such a brilliant writer.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:51)
- “I’m not averting my eyes now-a man in a patched jumper is painting the door to his house sky blue. Two small boys, who have been walloping one another with sticks, are begging him to let them help. He is giving them a tiny brush each.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:87)
- “I want to go with you. In fact, I don’t give a damn about the play. I’m only trying to rout you out of that apartment. Dinner? Tea? Cocktails? Boating? Dancing? You choose, and I’ll obey.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:87)
- “Now that we are corresponding friends, I want to ask you some questions-They are highly personal.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:102)
- “My English is yet poor, so Sister Touvier is improving my sentences as she writes them down.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:155)
- “Here I have been, wishing that I had known Elizabeth, missing her as if I had- why did I never think of writing about her?” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:176)
- “You should probably burn this letter as well as the last one. I’ve refused Mark finally and irrevocably, and my elation is indecent.” (Shaffer & Barrows, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, 1919:185)
- “Who is staying with him now, then?” put in the deep voice of the schoolmaster, cunningly.  
“Oh, I left him with a woman who comes in to help me and who understands him. But I shall call in the doctor on my way home” (Lawrence, *The Rainbow*, 2010:414)
- “Hey! What are you doing walking through my yard?”

The girl stopped.

Nobody can come through this yard ‘ less I say so.’

This ain’t your yard. It’s the school’s.

But I’m in charge of it.” (Morrison, *The Bluest Eye*, 2000:88)