

Spanish

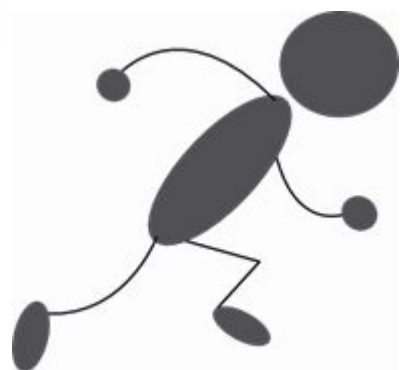
**Talking about what you are
doing now and were doing then
(Part 2/2)**

Present vs Imperfect continuous

Content warning: Social media is only suitable for persons aged 13+

Señorita Allinson





correr

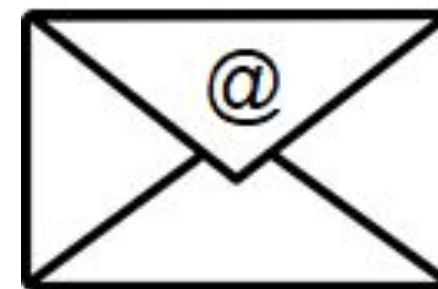


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estar + present participle vs *estar por* + infinitive

Use ***estar*** + present participle for **ongoing actions**.

Use ***estar por*** + infinitive to mean ***be about to do something***.

Compare:

Estoy por salir. =
I am about to **go out**.

Estoy saliendo. =
I am **going out**.

saliendo is the
present participle.

salir is the
infinitive.

Compare:

Estaba por salir. =
I was about to **go out**.

Estaba saliendo =
I was **going out**.

Note: the present
participle means
-ing, the infinitive
means ***(to) do***.



The imperfect continuous

1. Use the imperfect continuous to say what you were doing.
2. Use the imperfect of estar + present participle.
3. To say '*was just about to do something*' use the imperfect of estar + infinitive.
4. Complete the jigsaw translation in Spanish and English:
Estaba esperando porque estaba por entrar en clase.
I was waiting because I was about to go into class.
5. *You were about to go out but you were looking for your phone.* → Spanish =
Estabas por salir pero estabas buscando tu móvil.

