Spanish

Talking about activities right now (Part 1/2)
Present continuous with –er & -ir verbs
Revisit SSC [v] and [b]

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Escucha. Completa las palabras con 'v' o 'b'.

1	**El _v_erde es un color _b_astante _b_onito.** *(Green is quite a pretty colour.)*
2	**Cele_b_ramos el ani_v_ersario en _B_arcelona.** *(We are celebrating the anniversary in Barcelona.)*
3	**¡ _Vi_v_ir en _V_alencia en _v_erano de_b_e ser excelente!** *(Living in Valencia in summer must be excellent.)*
4	**¡ _V_er gatos _v_erdes en _B_enidorm no es normal!** *(Seeing green cats in Benidorm is not normal.)*

The present continuous with -ER and -IR verbs

Use the **present continuous** for an ongoing action that is happening *right now*.

Use the correct person of the present tense of **estar** and a present participle.

To make the present participle:

-**ar** verbs remove '-ar' and add '-**ando**'.	-**er** and -**ir** verbs remove '-er/-ir' and add '-**iendo**'.

Ejemplos:

estoy grab**ando** = I am recording

estás habl**ando** = You are speaking

está escap**ando** = S/he, it is escaping

Ejemplos:

estoy conduc**iendo** = I am driving

estás traduc**iendo** = You are translating

está discut**iendo** = S/he, it is arguing

Querer + infinitive vs estar + present participle

You know that **modal verbs** such as ***deber***, ***poder*** and ***querer*** can be followed by an **infinitive**.

Estar is not a modal verb. It can be followed by the **present participle** but not the infinitive.

Compare:

> ***decidir* is the infinitive.**

Queremos decidir. = We want to **decide**.

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

Estamos decidiendo. = We are **deciding**.

> ***decidiendo* is the present participle.**

Summary

1. To say what you are doing right now in Spanish, use the **present** **continuous**.

2. Use the present of **estar** and a **present participle**.

3. To make the present participle for -er/-ir verbs, remove -er/-ir and add **-iendo**.

4. 'We are writing a film' = **Estamos escribiendo una película.**

5. But 'we want to direct a film' = **Queremos dirigir una película.**