Frank Shearer, 99, waterskis. He was a championship polo player until he was 70.
GENERATIONS

Youth is wasted on the young.

—Oscar Wilde
Judy Perlman, of Chicago, is starting a new career—making dolls. She sells most of them before Christmas, at holiday fairs all over Illinois. “I’m having more fun than ever before. I’m traveling in my new job and meeting new people. Right now I’m preparing for my next show. I’m not earning a lot of money, but I don’t care.” Why isn’t she worried about making money? Perlman is a retired teacher, and she’s getting a pension.1

Many older people are starting new careers in their retirement. Americans are living longer than ever before. The average life expectancy in the United States is seventy-six years for men and eighty-one years for women. Most people retire in their midsixties. That means that retired people can have many years ahead of them. Some people are content just relaxing. But many seniors2 are getting involved in interesting hobbies or second careers. If they are getting a pension or living off savings from their work years, many can afford to find rewarding work without worrying about money. “I’m enjoying every minute of my new career. I think this is the best time of my life,” says Perlman.

Some senior citizens decide not to retire at all. Frank Babbit of Newark is a carpenter, and he’s still working. He has his own business and works fifty hours a week. And he’s almost eighty-eight years old.

Today healthy retirees are exploring many options, from relaxing to starting a new business or making a hobby into a new career. How do you see yourself as a retiree?

---

1 pension: a regular payment made by a business or government to a retired employee
2 senior: an older person; this usually refers to people over 65.
**COMPREHENSION CHECK** Based on the reading, tell if the statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Judy Perlman is working as a teacher.
2. People are living longer these days.
3. Some people earn money from a job and get a pension at the same time.

### 2.1 Present Continuous—Form

For the present continuous, we use a form of *be* (*is, am, are*) + verb + *–ing.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Be (am, is, are)</th>
<th>Verb + <em>–ing</em></th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>am</td>
<td>working</td>
<td>hard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>making</td>
<td>dolls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>getting</td>
<td>a pension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some seniors</td>
<td>are</td>
<td>starting</td>
<td>second careers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>are</td>
<td>exploring</td>
<td>possibilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Language Notes:**

1. We can make a contraction with the subject pronoun and a form of *be*. Most nouns can also contract with *is*.
   - *I’m* having fun. *We’re* learning new things.
   - Judy’s making dolls. Frank’s working as a carpenter.
2. To form the negative, we put *not* after *am/is/are*. In many cases, we can make a negative contraction in two ways:
   - She is not working. = *She isn’t* working. = *She’s not* working.
   - You are not relaxing. = *You aren’t* relaxing. = *You’re not* relaxing.
3. For *I am not*, there is only one contraction:
   - I am not traveling. = *I’m not* traveling.
4. We do not repeat the *be* verb after *and* or *or*.
   - Some people *are working* and *getting* a pension.
5. We can put an adverb between *be* and the verb + *–ing*.
   - He’s still working.

---

3 Some grammar books refer to the present continuous as the present progressive.
4 For a review of the spelling of the *–ing* form of the verb, see Appendix A.
5 See Lesson 1, page 5 for exceptions.
EXERCISE 1 Fill in the blanks with the words you hear to complete the conversation between a 59-year-old man (A) and the manager of a retirement home (B).

A: I’m thinking about moving into this retirement village. Can you give me some information?

B: Sure. This is a village for people over 55 years old.

A: I’m retired. I’m looking for activities to keep me busy.

B: Most of the people here are very active. Let me give you a tour. This is our fitness center.

A: What’s those people doing?

B: They’re doing yoga. It’s very popular here. And here’s our pool. As you can see, some people are swimming.

A: What about those people in the pool?

B: They’re doing a water aerobics class. Now let’s go to the computer center. That’s Nicole. She’s the teacher. She’s teaching a photo-editing course.

A: What game is Marge and Bob playing?

B: They’re making a photo album for their grandchildren. And Bob and Cindy over there travel all over the world. They’re together a Web page with their vacation pictures. Let me show you our game room. As you can see, some people are playing chess.

A: What about those women? What game is that?

B: That’s called Mahjongg. It’s especially popular among the women.

A: I’m a widower. Maybe I can meet a woman here.

B: That’s possible. We have a singles group that meets once a week. In fact, right now. I can introduce you to Mary Dodge. over there. She’s wearing a red T-shirt. She can give you more information.

EXERCISE 2 Fill in the blanks with the present continuous form of the verb given. Use the correct spelling. Make contractions wherever possible.

1. Jack is visiting a retirement village.
2. He’s taking a tour.
3. He’s looking at the different activities.
4. The manager of the village __________________ him information.
5. Some people ___________________.
6. Some people ___________________ the exercise equipment.
7. One man ___________________ weights.
8. Some people in the pool ___________________.
9. Nicole ___________________ a class. She ___________________ a class.
10. Some people ___________________ anything.

2.2 The Present Continuous—Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some people are doing yoga over there. Those women are playing a game.</td>
<td>We use the present continuous to describe an action in progress at this moment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary is standing over there. She's wearing a red T-shirt.</td>
<td>We use the present continuous to describe a state or condition that we can observe now, using the following verbs: sit, stand, wear, and sleep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy is meeting new people. She is getting her pension and earning money from her new job.</td>
<td>We use the present continuous to show a long-term action that is in progress. It may not be happening at this exact moment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More and more retired Americans are starting a second career. People are living longer.</td>
<td>We use the present continuous to describe a trend. A trend is a behavior that many people in society are doing at this time. It describes a change in behavior from an earlier time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXERCISE 3 Fill in the blanks with the present continuous form of one of the verbs from the box.

| retire | return | work | discover | start | volunteer | live | spend |

1. More and more older people ____________ at second careers these days.
2. Many people ___________________ at a younger age.
3. They ___________________ time doing interesting things.
4. Some people ___________________ new careers.
5. Other people ___________________. They are helping others without pay.
6. People ___________________ longer and healthier lives.
7. Some people ___________________ new talents and abilities.
8. Some older women ___________________ to work after raising a family.
EXERCISE 4  Are these things happening at this point in time in the United States, in the world, or in another country you know about? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

1. People are living healthier lives.
2. People are living longer.
3. The world is becoming a safer place.
4. Medical science is advancing quickly.
5. A lot of people are losing their jobs.
6. People are working harder than before.
7. People are doing more and enjoying less.
8. Kids are growing up faster than before.

2.3 Questions with the Present Continuous

Compare statements, *yes/no* questions, short answers, and *wh-* questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Yes/No Question and Short Answer</th>
<th>Wh- Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You <em>are working</em> as a carpenter.</td>
<td>Are you <em>working</em> full time? Yes, I <em>am</em>.</td>
<td>How many hours <em>are</em> you <em>working</em>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They <em>are doing</em> an exercise.</td>
<td>Are they <em>doing</em> yoga? No, they’re not.</td>
<td>What kind of exercise <em>are</em> they <em>doing</em>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy <em>isn’t earning</em> a lot of money.</td>
<td>Is she <em>earning</em> enough money? Yes, she is.</td>
<td>Why <em>isn’t</em> Judy <em>earning</em> a lot of money?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Language Notes:
1. We sometimes leave a preposition at the end of a question. What kind of career is he thinking *about*?
2. When the question is “What . . . doing?” we usually answer with a different verb. What are they *doing*? They’re *taking* an aerobics class.
**EXERCISE 5** Use the words given to make a *yes/no* question. Fill in the second blank to complete the short answer.

1. **those/men play**
   
   **A:**  Are those men playing **[ ]** checkers?
   
   **B:** No, they **[ ]**. They're playing chess.

2. **you/consider**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** this retirement home?
   
   **B:** Yes, I **[ ]**. I’m considering it now that my wife is gone.

3. **Marge/design**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** a website?
   
   **B:** Yes, she **[ ]**. She’s designing a website with pictures of her vacations.

4. **Marge/take**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** pictures now?
   
   **B:** No, she **[ ]**. She’s putting her pictures on her website.

5. **your wife/do**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** something now?
   
   **B:** No, **[ ]**. She’s just relaxing.

6. **Betty and Charles/take**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** art classes?
   
   **B:** Yes, they **[ ]**. They love art.

7. **I/ask**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** too many questions?
   
   **B:** No, **[ ]**. You can ask as many questions as you want.

8. **you/write**
   
   **A:** **[ ]** down this information?
   
   **B:** No, **[ ]**. I can check your website later.
EXERCISE 6 Read each statement. Then write a question using the word(s) given.

1. Some retirees are discovering new interests. (how)

   How are they discovering new interests?

2. Judy is having more fun. (why)

3. Jack is taking piano lessons. (where)

4. I'm starting a new career. (what kind of career)

5. Some seniors are studying new things. (what)

6. My father is thinking about retirement. (why)

7. Those women are playing a game. (what game)

8. We’re not planning to retire. (why)

9. People are living longer nowadays. (why)

10. I'm doing interesting things. (what kinds of things)

11. My father isn’t working now. (why)
EXERCISE 7 Fill in the blanks with the present continuous to complete the conversation between two neighbors. Use contractions wherever possible.

A: What **are you doing**, Jack?

B: I **look** at some brochures.

A: What kind of brochures **you/look at**?

B: They’re from a retirement village.

A: **you/think** about moving?

B: Yes, I am.

A: Why?

B: Now that Rose is gone, I feel lonely.

A: But you have a lot of good neighbors here. And your daughter lives with you.

B: Most of the neighbors are young. My next-door neighbors are always busy. Right now they **work**. And the neighbors across the street are never home.

A: They’re older people. **work** too?

B: No. They **travel** now.

A: But I’m here. I **water** my lawn, as usual. And my wife is inside. She **talk** on the phone, as usual.

B: I’m sorry I’m complaining so much.

A: You **not/complain**. You **just/look** for something to do.

B: There’s a lot to do. I just don’t want to do things alone.

A: What retirement village **you/plan** to go to?

B: Sun Valley Senior Village seems nice.

A: What about your daughter?

B: She **plan** to move in with a friend of hers.
Read the following article. Pay special attention to the words in bold.

They’re everywhere: in coffee shops, on the train, in restaurants, at work. They’re texting; they’re tweeting; they’re googling; they’re checking social media; they’re taking selfies; they’re listening to music. And yes, they’re even working. They’re always connected. These are the “digital natives.”

Born at the end of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first century, digital natives don’t know life without technology. The first generation of digital natives is now entering the workforce and changing the way we work. More and more younger people are working from home, in coffee shops, or anyplace. They’re bringing their personal equipment into the workplace too. They switch back and forth between their social and professional lives. They don’t see the need to separate the two.

Some older people are adapting well to technology. Some people call them "digital immigrants." Others are having trouble. Some are refusing to use any new technology. Older people often think that technology is growing too fast. Look at the older people around you. Do they have smartphones? Do they have earbuds in their ears? Are they texting? Many older people prefer to share information with a small group of friends. Digital natives share information globally.6

The younger generations want high-tech devices that do everything: take pictures, send texts and photos, provide music and videos, and connect them with friends around the world. What does the older generation want from technology? In many cases, Grandma and Grandpa want a device that connects them to family and friends. They like to see pictures of grandchildren. Some even love to have a video chat with family.

As more and more technology is entering every aspect of our lives, the digital divide between generations is widening.

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6 globally: throughout the world
COMPREHENSION CHECK  Based on the reading, tell if the statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. Many digital natives are always connected.
2. Seventy-five percent of older people use smartphones.
3. Digital immigrants usually want a device that does many things.

### 2.4 Contrasting the Simple Present and the Present Continuous

#### Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Simple Present</th>
<th>The Present Continuous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grandma uses e-mail.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She doesn't use a smart phone.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does she use the Internet? Yes, she does.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When does she use the Internet?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why doesn't she use a smart phone?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc is receiving a message.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He isn't getting a phone call.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is he receiving a message from his friend? Yes, he is.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How is he receiving a message?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why isn't he receiving a message from his friend?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People use their phones to text.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I sometimes send photos to my grandmother.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older people prefer to talk on the phone.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use the simple present for:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a general truth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a habitual activity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a custom.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm getting a text message right now.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My grandfather is learning about technology.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology is growing quickly.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use the present continuous for:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• an action that is in progress now.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a longer action in progress at this general time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a recent trend.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My grandparents live in a retirement home.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My sister is living in a dorm this semester.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use live in the simple present to indicate a person's home.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We use live in the present continuous to indicate a temporary, short-term residence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A: What does she do (for a living)?
B: She's an English teacher.
A: What is she doing now?
B: She's texting her grandson.

*"What does she do?" asks about a job or profession.  "What is she doing?" asks about an activity now.*

#### Exercise 8  Fill in the blanks with the simple present or the present continuous form of the verb given.

1. Conversation between a grandmother and grandson:
   
   A: You’re eating and working on your essay at the same time.  
   B: That’s not a problem, Grandma. 
   A: What are you eating? Is that a hamburger? 
   B: No, it isn’t. It’s a veggie burger. I never eat meat.

   *continued*
A: You don't eat enough. Look at you. You're so thin.

B: I ______________________ to lose weight.

d. try

A: You always ______________________ in front of your computer. Take a break.

I ______________________ soup now. When it’s ready, please come to the table.

C. eat

B: But I ______________________ on something important now.

g. work

A: How is that possible? You ______________________ to music too.

I ______________________ to music when I ______________________.

h. eat and listen

i. listen

j. work or study

A: Whenever I ______________________, I ______________________ on my work.

I ______________________ other things at the same time.

k. work

l. concentrate

m. not/do

B: You ______________________ the world of young people. We often multitask.

n. not/understand

A: You're right. I don't.

2. Conversation between two brothers:

A: ______________________? Wake up. It’s almost time for class.

a. you/sleep

B: I’m so tired. I never ______________________ enough sleep.

b. get

A: That's because you're always on your computer or phone. How many hours

______________________ a night?

c. you/sleep

B: About four or five.

A: That's not enough. You ______________________ more sleep. Turn off your computer

and phone at night, and get some sleep.

d. need

e. turn off

f. want

B: I never ______________________ my devices. I always ______________________

to know when I get a message.

e. turn off

f. want

g. make

A: That’s ridiculous! Let’s go get breakfast. Mom ______________________ pancakes.

B: I ______________________ breakfast. I just ______________________ coffee.

h. not/want

i. drink

A: That’s not good. You ______________________ to live a healthier life.

j. need

3. Conversation between two friends:

A: What ______________________ for a living?

a. your mother/do

B: She's retired now.

A: ______________________ old?

b. she/be
B: No. She’s only fifty-eight.

A: What ____________ with her free time?

c. she/do

B: A lot of things. In fact, she ____________ any free time at all.

d. not/have

She ____________ a course at the art center this semester. Right now

e. take

she ____________ a picture of me.

f. paint

### 2.5 Action and Nonaction Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He is texting his friend.</td>
<td>Some verbs are action verbs. These verbs express physical or mental activity (text, call, work, share, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am listening to music.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young people know a lot about technology.</td>
<td>Some verbs are nonaction verbs. These verbs express a state, condition, perception, or feeling, not an action. We do not usually use the present continuous with nonaction verbs. We use the simple present even if we are talking about now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many people have a smart phone now.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you remember a time without cell phones?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She’s looking at the text message.</td>
<td>Some verbs can express an action or a perception. When they express an action (for example, look at), they are action verbs. When they express a perception (for example, look + adjective or look like), they are nonaction verbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to learn about technology, but it looks hard.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your photo looks like a selfie.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m looking at my cell phone.</td>
<td>Look and listen are action verbs. See and hear are nonaction verbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I see a text from my father.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She is listening to music.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She hears her favorite song.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandma is thinking about getting an e-reader.</td>
<td>When we think about or of something, think is an action verb. Think that shows an opinion about something. It is a nonaction verb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She thinks that technology is a good thing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My grandfather is having a hard time with technology.</td>
<td>When have means to experience something or to eat or drink something, it is an action verb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He’s having lunch with his friends now.</td>
<td>When have shows possession, relationship, or illness, it is a nonaction verb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandma has free time now.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She has five grandchildren.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can’t visit her now. I have a cold.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some common nonaction verbs are:
- Perception verbs: smell, taste, look, sound, followed by an adjective or like
- Feelings and desires: like, dislike, love, hate, hope, want, need, prefer, agree, disagree, care about, expect, matter
- Mental states: believe, know, hear, see, notice, understand, remember, think that, suppose, recognize
- Other nonaction verbs: mean, cost, spell, weigh
EXERCISE 9 Circle the correct words to complete the conversation between a grandmother and her grandson.

A: Listen, Marco, (I'm thinking / I think) about getting a new computer. Can you help me pick one out?

B: Sure, Grandma. How about on Saturday?

A: Saturday's good. What's that noise? It (sounds / is sounding) like rock music (comes / is coming) from your pocket.

B: It's my cell phone. It's my new ringtone. (I receive / I'm receiving) a text message now.

A: It (looks / is looking) like Greek to me. What does it say?

B: (He tells / He's telling) me to come home early. (He wants / He's wanting) to give me another driving lesson. (I learn / I'm learning) to drive, you know.

A: When (I have / I'm having) something to say, (I use / I'm using) the phone.

B: (I prefer / I'm preferring) to text. (It saves / It's saving) time. You can text me too, Grandma.

A: OK. (It looks / It's looking) hard. Teach me. Let me send a note to Grandpa. “Jim. Where are you? See you later.”

B: Grandma, (you're writing / you write) so slowly. And (you use / you're using) whole words. Use abbreviations, like this: “where r u c u later.” Don't use punctuation. (You need / You're needing) to write fast.

A: You know I'm an English teacher, and (I don't like / I'm not liking) to write without punctuation.

B: Text messages don’t need punctuation.

A: (I don't think / I'm not thinking) I can do it.

B: But (you send / you're sending) e-mail every day.

A: That's different. (I write / I'm writing) slowly, and (I check / I'm checking) my spelling.

B: You're so old-fashioned!

A: No, I'm not. This month (I study / I'm studying) photo editing at the senior center. (I make / I'm making) a digital family album.

B: That's great, Grandma! I'm proud of you.
**EXERCISE 10** Fill in the blanks with the simple present or the present continuous form of the verb given.

1. **A:** My grandfather is a volunteer. Twice a week he _________ reads _________ for blind people.
   **B:** That’s great! My grandmother _________ work _________ part-time in a bookstore. She _________ love _________ books. She usually _________ ride _________ her bike to work. She _________ like _________ the exercise.
   **A:** Where is she now? _________ she _________?
   **B:** Right now she’s on vacation. She _________ visit _________ her sister in Florida.

2. **A:** Can I borrow your dictionary?
   **B:** I’m sorry. I _________ use _________ it now. Where’s your dictionary?
   **A:** I never _________ bring _________ it to class. It’s too heavy.
   **B:** _________ you _________ expect _________ to use my dictionary all the time? You _________ need _________ a dictionary app for your phone.
   **A:** I _________ not _________ have _________ a smart phone.

3. **A:** What _________ the teacher _________ say _________? She _________ talk _________ too fast, so I _________ not _________ understand _________ her.
   **B:** I don’t know. I _________ not _________ listen _________ . I _________ text _________ a friend.
   **A:** I _________ think _________ you should pay attention in class.

4. **A:** What _________ you _________ write _________?
   **B:** I _________ write _________ an essay about my grandparents. I _________ love _________ them very much.
   **A:** _________ they _________ with you?
   **B:** No, they don’t. They live in Pakistan. They _________ visit _________ us once a year.
   **A:** How _________ you _________ communicate _________? By e-mail?
   **B:** We usually _________ do _________ a video chat once a week. But right now their computer _________ not _________ work _________, so we _________ use _________ the phone.

*continued*
5. A: ___________ that guy over there? Who is he?
   a. you/see

   B: That’s my technology teacher.

   A: He ___________ jeans and running shoes. And he ___________ an earring in his ear. He ___________ like a student.
   b. wear
c. have
d. look

   B: I ___________. Everyone ___________ he’s a student. But he’s a very professional teacher.
   e. know
   f. think

6. A: My parents ___________ to put Grandma in a nursing home. Mom ___________
   a. plan
   b. think

   she’ll receive better care there.

   B: It ___________ like a difficult decision.
   c. sound

   A: It is. Mom ___________ what else to do. Grandma ___________.
   d. not/know
e. sometimes/fall

   B: Maybe she ___________ a cane or a walker.
   f. need

   A: Her memory is bad too. She ___________ where she puts things.
   g. never/remember

   B: Can I call you back later? I ___________ my other phone. My son
   h. hear
   i. call
The population of the United States is growing slowly. Today it’s about 320 million. By 2050, it’s going to be about 440 million. This is not a big growth, but one group is growing very fast—the elderly. The sixty-five and over population will more than double by 2050. The eighty-five and over population will more than triple.

There are two reasons for this increase of older Americans. First, the “baby boomers” are getting old. Baby boomers are people born between 1946 and 1964. During that time, a very large number of babies were born. The oldest are now entering their senior years. Many more will soon be elderly. As these people retire, young people are going to have many more job opportunities. In fact, there’s going to be a shortage of workers to take their place. The number of jobs in health care will increase. There will be many jobs for pharmacists, physical therapists, and home health aides.

There is another reason for the increase in older Americans: life expectancy is increasing. Some scientists predict that half the babies born in 2007 will live to be 104 years old. But according to Dr. Harrison Bloom of the Longevity Center of New York, many young people won’t reach this age because they don’t have a healthy lifestyle. Or, if they do live a long time, they’re going to need a lot of medical help.

When today’s young people retire at age sixty-five or seventy, they’ll have a lot of years ahead of them. They need to think about how they’ll spend their later years. If they expect to have good health, they need to think about it now.

---

7 shortage: a state of not having enough
COMPREHENSION CHECK  Based on the reading, tell if the statement is true (T) or false (F).

1. There will be a shortage of jobs in health care.
2. The biggest growth in population will be in people over eighty-five.
3. The baby boomers will live longer than younger generations.

2.6 The Future with Will

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The number of older people will increase. My grandfather will be 85 next week.</td>
<td>We use will + the base form for the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'll be 72 years old in 2050. We'll retire at age 65.</td>
<td>We can contract will with the subject pronouns. The contractions are I'll, you'll, he'll, she'll, it'll, we'll, and they'll.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The population will not decrease. I won't retire soon.</td>
<td>To form the negative, we put not after will. The contraction for will not is won't.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You'll probably have a long retirement.</td>
<td>We can put an adverb between will and the main verb.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compare statements, yes/no questions, short answers, and wh- questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Yes/No Question and Short Answer</th>
<th>Wh- Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She will help her parents.</td>
<td>Will she help her grandparents? Yes, she will.</td>
<td>How will she help her parents?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You will retire soon.</td>
<td>Will you retire next year? No, I won't.</td>
<td>When will you retire?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There won't be enough health workers.</td>
<td>Will there be a lot of jobs? Yes, there will.</td>
<td>Why won't there be enough health workers?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXERCISE 11  Listen to the conversation between a 60-year-old mother and her 29-year-old daughter. Fill in the blanks with the words you hear.

A: Tomorrow ______ will be ______ my last day of work.

B: What ______ with all your free time?

A: Our retired friends all say I ______ any free time. They say ______ plenty of things to do.

B: So ______ first?

A: Dad and I are planning to travel.

B: ______ first?
A: To the Grand Canyon.

B: That’s great! How long _______________ there?

A: For about two weeks. Then _______________ Grandpa in Nevada.

B: I’m sure _______________ happy to see you.

A: _______________ eighty-five at the end of August. _______________ there for his birthday.

B: What _______________ with the dog?

A: Can you take care of her for us while we’re gone?

B: Sorry. I _______________ here the first week in August.

A: Why _______________ here?

B: I’m going to New York. _______________ to find someone else to take care of the dog.

A: _______________ my neighbor. Maybe _______________ it. Don’t forget to send Grandpa a birthday card.

B: _______________ him an e-mail on his birthday.

A: You know Grandpa. He doesn’t use his computer much.

B: All right. _______________ him a card then.

A: I’m sure _______________ it.

**EXERCISE 12** Fill in the blanks with will and one of the verbs from the box. You may use the same verb more than once.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>spend</th>
<th>have</th>
<th>increase</th>
<th>triple</th>
<th>live</th>
<th>need</th>
<th>move</th>
<th>find</th>
<th>be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Today’s generation _______________ longer.

2. The population of old people _______________.

3. The over-85 population _______________ by 2050.

4. _______________ young people _______________ more job opportunities?

5. Many young people _______________ jobs in health care.

6. Some older people _______________ into retirement housing.

$continued$
7. How _________________ you _________________ your retirement years?
8. Why _________________ we _________________ more health care workers?
9. How old _________________ you _________________ in the year 2050?

2.7 The Future with Be Going To

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| People **are going to live** longer.  
We **are going to need** more pharmacists in the future.  | We can use a form of be + going to + the base form to express future time. |
| I’m **not going to work** after retirement.  
He **isn’t going to retire** soon.  | To form the negative, we put not after am, is, or are. |
| We’re **going to go** to the Grand Canyon.  
We’re **going** to the Grand Canyon.  | We often shorten going to go to going. |

Compare statements, yes/no questions, short answers, and *wh*- questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Yes/No Question and Short Answer</th>
<th>Wh- Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| We **are going to travel**.                   | Are we **going to travel** by car?  
Yes, we **are**.                       | When are we **going to travel**? |
| She **is going to work** as a nurse.          | Is she **going to work** at a hospital?  
No, she isn’t.                           | Where is she **going to work**? |
| You **aren’t going to send** Grandpa a present. | Are you **going to send** an e-card?  
Yes, I **am**.                            | Why **aren’t** you **going to send** Grandpa a present? |

Pronunciation Notes:
1. In informal speech, **going to** before another verb often sounds like “gonna.” In formal English, we don’t write “gonna.”
   I’m not “gonna” work after retirement.
2. Only **going to** before another verb sounds like “gonna.” We don’t pronounce “gonna” before a noun or a noun phrase.
   He’s **going to** the store.
**EXERCISE 13** Fill in the blanks with be going to and one of the verbs from the box. You may use the same verb more than once.

| need | spend | study | be | live | find | become | double | have |

1. Many people are going to live to the age of 100.
2. Young people a lot of job possibilities.
3. I a nurse because it easy to find a job.
4. Some people a long retirement.
5. Some old people a lot of medical help.
6. you to be a physician's assistant?
7. Younger people jobs in health care.
8. By 2050, the population of people over sixty-five .
9. your grandparents with your family?
10. You need to think about how you your retirement years.
11. In the future, there a shortage of workers.
12. I to be 100?

**EXERCISE 14** Fill in the blanks with be going to and the words given to complete the conversation between two co-workers.

A: I'm so excited. I'm going to retire at the end of this year!
   1. retire

B: That's wonderful news. What next?
   2. you/do

A: I don’t really know yet. I new things.
   3. explore

B: What ?
   4. you/explore

A: I think I have a talent for art. I art classes.
   5. take

B: part-time?
   6. you/work

A: No way! I want to have fun.

B: Is your husband happy about your retirement?

A: Yes. He too.
   7. retire

B: But you’re not that old.

continued
A: I’m 58 and he’s 56. Our children ___________________________ us much anymore.

B: Why ___________________________ you?

A: Our youngest son ___________________________ from college in June. And the other two are already on their own. The oldest ___________________________ married next year, and the middle one has her own apartment and a job.

B: I ___________________________ you at work. It ___________________________ the same without you.

A: I ___________________________ the boss and the long hours.

2.8 Choosing Will or Be Going To or Present Continuous for Future

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. population will be 440 million by 2050.</td>
<td>For a prediction about the future, we use either will or be going to. Will is more formal than be going to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. population is going to be 440 million by 2050.</td>
<td>For a fact about the future, we use either will or be going to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandpa will be 85 years old in August.</td>
<td>For a fact about the future, we use either will or be going to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandpa is going to be 85 in August.</td>
<td>For a fact about the future, we use either will or be going to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: I’m interested in health care. I am going to become a nurse.</td>
<td>When we have a definite plan for the future, we use be going to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: My sister’s a nurse. I’ll tell her about your plan. Maybe she can give you some advice.</td>
<td>When we are thinking about the future at the moment of speaking, we use will.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandma: I want to buy a cell phone. What kind should I buy?</td>
<td>To make a promise or offer to help with no previous plan, we use will. The decision comes at the moment of speaking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandson: I’ll help you. I’ll take you shopping.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandma: You always say that. But you never have time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandson: I’ll make time. I promise.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My grandmother is moving into a retirement home on Friday. I’m helping her move.</td>
<td>We can use the present continuous with definite plans for the near future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The weather report says it’s going to rain on Friday, so the move won’t be easy.</td>
<td>We don’t use the present continuous if there is no plan. (Not: It is raining on Friday.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Language Note:
For a scheduled event, such as a flight, movie, or class, we often use the simple present.

The semester begins in August.
My nursing course ends next month.
**EXERCISE 15** Listen to the conversation. Fill in the blanks with the words you hear.

A: I hear ___________ next month.

B: Yes. Isn’t it wonderful? ___________ sixty-five in September.

A: What ___________ after you retire?

B: ___________ to Florida.

A: What ___________ in Florida?

B: ___________ a sailboat. Maybe ___________ to play golf. What about you?

A: I don’t know. ___________ any time soon. I’m only forty-five.

B: I hope ___________ me in Florida.

A: Of course ___________. Do you need help packing?

B: Yes. ___________ to pack this weekend.

A: ___________ you.

B: Thanks. ___________ my life a lot easier!

**EXERCISE 16** Circle the correct words to complete the conversation. In some cases, both choices are possible. If so, circle both.

1. A: Do you want to go for a cup of coffee?

   B: Sorry. I don’t have time. ___________ my grandfather this afternoon.

   (I’m going to visit/I’ll visit) him with his computer. And I need to return some books to the library.

   (I’m going to help/I’ll help) them for you.

   A: Give them to me. I’m going that way on my way home. (I’ll return/I’m going to return) them for you.

   Do you want to get together for coffee tomorrow?

   B: I’m not sure. (I’ll text/I’m going to text) you tomorrow to let you know.

2. A: I have to go to the airport. My grandparents’ plane ___________ at four o’clock this afternoon.

   B: (I’ll go/I’m going) with you. (I’ll/I’m going to) stay in the car while you go into the airport.

   A: Thanks.

   B: How long ___________?

   continued
A: (They’ll come/They’re coming) because (my sister’s graduating/will graduate) on Sunday. After the graduation, (they’ll/they’re going to) visit my cousins in Denver.

3. A: My mother’s so happy. (She’s going to retire/She’ll) retire next month.
B: Are you (going to have/having) a party for her?
A: Yes. Do you want to come to the party?
B: What’s the date?
A: June 16.
B: I have to check my calendar. (I’m going to/I’ll) let you know later.

2.9 Future + Time or If Clause

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time or If Clause (Simple Present)</th>
<th>Main Clause (Future)</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When I retire,</td>
<td>I’m going to start a new hobby.</td>
<td>Some sentences have a time or if clause and a main clause. We use the future in the main clause; we use the simple present in the time or if clause.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If I am healthy,</td>
<td>I’ll continue to work.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Clause (Future)</td>
<td>Time or If Clause (Simple Present)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He’ll move to a warm climate</td>
<td>as soon as he retires.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My parents are going to travel</td>
<td>if they have enough money.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Punctuation Note:
If the time or if clause comes before the main clause, we use a comma to separate the two parts of the sentence. If the main clause comes first, we don’t use a comma.

EXERCISE 17 Choose the correct words to complete the conversation. In some cases, both choices are possible. If so, circle both choices.

A: What (are you doing/will you do) later today?
B: After class (will be/is) over, I’m going to drive my grandfather to the airport.
A: Where (is he going/will he go)?
B: To Hawaii to play golf.
A: That’s great! How old is he?
B: (He’s going to/He’ll) be seventy-eight next month.
A: He’s pretty old.
B: He’s in perfect health. (He’s getting/he’ll get) married in two months.
A: That’s great! What are you and your family (doing / going to do) when (he’s / he’ll be) no longer able to take care of himself?

B: We never think about it. He’s in great health. I think he’s (outliving / going to outlive) us all.

A: But (he’s probably going to need / he’ll probably need) help when (he’ll get / he gets) older.

B: If (he’ll need / he needs) help, (he has / he’ll have) his wife to take care of him.

A: My grandparents are in their sixties now. But when (they’re / they’ll be) older, they’re going to live with my parents. In our country, it’s an honor to take care of our parents and grandparents.

B: That sounds like a great custom. But I think older people should be independent. I’m glad that Grandpa doesn’t depend on us. And when (I’m / I’ll be) old, (I’m going to take / I’m taking) care of myself. I don’t want to depend on anyone.

A: (You’ll change / You’re changing) your mind when (you’re / you’ll be) old.

EXERCISE 18 [About You] Think about a specific time in your future (when you graduate, when you get married, when you have children, when you find a job, when you return to your native country, when you retire, etc.). Write three sentences to tell what will happen at that time. Find a partner who is close to your age. Compare your answers to your partner’s answers.

1. When I have children, I won’t have as much free time as I do now.

2. When I retire, I’m going to start a new hobby.

3. ________________________________

4. ________________________________

5. ________________________________
### Simple Present

| For general truths | Many people **retire** in their sixties.  
|                    | Some retirees **get** a pension.  
| For regular activities, habits, customs | Jack **plays** golf twice a week.  
|                    | I **always** visit my grandparents on the weekend.  
| With a place of origin | My grandfather **comes** from Mexico.  
|                    | My grandmother **comes** from Peru.  
| In a time clause or in an *if* clause of a future statement | When she **retires**, she’ll start a new hobby.  
|                    | If Grandma **needs** help, she’ll live with us.  
| With nonaction verbs | I **care** about my grandparents.  
|                    | Your grandfather **needs** help now.  
|                    | My grandfather **prefers** to live alone now.  
| For scheduled events | The plane **leaves** at 8 p.m. tonight.  

### Present Continuous (with action verbs only)

| For an action happening now, at this moment | My friend **is texting** me now.  
|                    | She’s **sending** me her photo.  
| For a long-term action in progress at this general time | Judy **is earning** money by making dolls.  
|                    | Jack is retired now. He **is starting** a new career.  
| For a trend in society | The population of the U.S. **is getting** older.  
|                    | Americans **are living** longer.  
| For a definite plan in the near future | She **is retiring** next month.  
|                    | She **is going** on a long trip soon.  
| With a descriptive state | Mary **is standing** over there.  
|                    | She **is wearing** jeans and a T-shirt.  

### Future

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will</th>
<th>Be Going To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For a plan</td>
<td>He <strong>is going to retire</strong> in two years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| For a fact | The number of old people **will increase**.  
|                    | The number of old people **is going to increase**.  
| For a prediction | There **will be** more jobs in health care.  
|                    | There **are going to be** more jobs in health care.  
| For a decision made at the time of speaking, usually with a promise or an offer | I’ll take care of you when you’re old.  
|                    | Grandma, I’ll **carry** your grocery bags for you.  

Circle the correct words to complete the conversation. If both answers are correct, circle both choices.

A: Hi, Maya.
B: Hi, Liz. How are you?
A: Fine. What **are you doing**/**you are doing**? **(Do/Are)** you want to go out for a cup of coffee?
B: **I'm not having/I don't have** time now. **(I pack/I'm packing)**.
    **(We're moving/We're going to move)** next Saturday.
A: Oh, really? Why **are you**/**you are** moving? **(have/are having)** such a lovely apartment now.
B: Yes, I know we do. But my father **comes/is coming** soon, so we're **going to need/need**ing a bigger apartment.
A: When **is he/he is** going to come?
B: He **leaves/’ll leave** as soon as he **gets/’ll get** his visa. That **is probably/will probably be** in about four months.
A: But your present apartment **has/have** an extra bedroom.
B: Yes. But my husband **likes/is liking** to have an extra room for an office. He usually **brings/is bringing** a lot of work home. He doesn’t **likes/like** noise when he works.
A: **Is your father/Your father is** going to get his own apartment after he **will find/finds** a job?
B: He’s retired now. He’s going to **live/living** with us. He **isn’t liking/doesn’t like** to live alone.
A: **Do you need/Are you needing** help with your packing?
B: No, thanks. Bill and I are **stay/staying** home this week to finish the packing. And my sister **is helping/helps** me now too.
A: I’d like to help. **I come/’ll come** over next Saturday to help you move.
B: **(We’re going to use/We use)** professional movers on Saturday. We **aren’t/don’t** want to bother our friends.
A: It’s no bother. I **want/’m wanting** to help.
B: Thanks. I have to go now. **(I hear/I’m hearing)** Bill now. **(He calls/He’s calling)** me. He **need/needs** help in the basement. **(I call/I’ll call)** you back later.
A: That’s not necessary. **(I see/I’ll see)** you on Saturday. Bye.
PART 1 Editing Advice

1. Always include a form of *be* in a present continuous verb.
   - She is working now.

2. Don’t use the present continuous with a nonaction verb.
   - I am liking my new hobby.

3. Include *be* in a future sentence that has no other verb.
   - You will be busy when you retire.

4. Don’t combine *will* and *be going to*.
   - He will be going to leave. OR He’s going to leave.

5. Don’t use the future after a time word or *if*.
   - When I will retire, I’ll have more free time.
   - If I will have enough money, I’ll travel.

6. Use a form of *be* with *going to*.
   - He is going to help his grandfather.

7. Use the correct word order in questions.
   - When will you retire?
   - Why isn’t she going to work part-time?

PART 2 Editing Practice

Some of the shaded words and phrases have mistakes. Find the mistakes and correct them. If the shaded words are correct, write C.

My grandfather is retired now, and he’s not happy. He wakes up every day and says, “What will I do today?” On the other hand, my grandmother is very busy. My grandparents live in a retirement village, and Grandma is learning how to draw. She’s also taking singing lessons, and she is studying photography. Next month, she is going to take a trip to India with a group of older people. When Grandma will get back from India, she is going to make a photo slideshow of her trip.
Grandpa doesn’t want to travel. He says, “What am I going to do in India?” I’m thinking that Grandpa is needing to find a hobby. Grandma always tells him, “You will be happy if you find something to do.” Will I going to have a hard time like Grandpa when I will retire? I’ll think about it when the time comes.

PART 3 Write About It

1. Write about the differences in generations and their use of technology. Use examples from your own life or the lives of people you know.
2. Interview a retired person. What is this person doing with his or her life now? What are this person’s plans for the future?

PART 4 Edit Your Writing

Reread the Summary of Lesson 2 and the editing advice. Edit your writing from Part 3.