

Word on the Street Flathunting Scene 1 – Language Focus

Exercises

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 1

Use the expressions to complete the sentences.

geography when I was at school. Our teacher was horrible! / meet Frank again.

We haven't seen each other for years. / talk on their mobile phones in restaurants. / the weather's so hot. I can't concentrate on anything. / next week's episode of 'House'.

It's so exciting! / ironing. I wish we could pay someone to do it for us.

I can't stand _____

I couldn't stand _____

I can't bear people who _____

I can't bear it when _____

I can't wait to _____

I can't wait for _____

Activity 2

What is the meaning of the present continuous in these sentences? Put the sentences into three groups.

I'm not surprised Terri's so stressed. She's always drinking coffee. / I'm reading an excellent book at the moment. It's about a mad Danish king. / I'm waiting for you at the station. I'm wearing a dark suit and a red tie. / I'm sorry I'm so tired. We're having a lot of problems at work. / John! Can you answer the phone, please? I'm washing my hair! / You're always complaining about your flat. Why don't you move to a new one?

An action happening exactly now

An action happening around now:

An action which happens again and again:

Activity 3

Can you remember the sentences from the last activity? Complete them using the present continuous. Remember to use 'always' where necessary.

1. I'm not surprised Terri's so stressed. She _____ coffee.

2. I _____ an

excellent book at the moment. It's about a mad Danish king.

3. I _____ for you at the station. I _____ a dark suit and a red tie.
4. I'm sorry I'm so tired. We _____ a lot of

problems at work.

5. John! Can you answer the phone, please? I _____ my hair!
6. You _____ about your flat. Why don't you move to a new one?

Answers

Activity 1

I can't stand ironing. I wish we could pay someone to do it for us.

I couldn't stand geography when I was at school. Our teacher was horrible!

I can't bear people who talk on their mobile phones in restaurants.

I can't bear it when the weather's so hot. I can't concentrate on anything.

I can't wait to meet Frank again. We haven't seen each other for years.

I can't wait for next week's episode of 'House'. It's so exciting!

Activity 2

An action happening exactly now

I'm waiting for you at the station. I'm wearing a dark suit and a red tie.

John! Can you answer the phone, please? I'm washing my hair!

An action happening around now

I'm reading an excellent book at the moment. It's about a mad Danish king.

I'm sorry I'm so tired. We're having a lot of problems at work.

An action which happens again and again

I'm not surprised Terri's so stressed. She's always drinking coffee.

You're always complaining about your flat. Why don't you move to a new one?

Activity 3

1. I'm not surprised Terri's so stressed. She is always drinking/'s always drinking coffee.
2. I am reading/'m reading an excellent book at the moment. It's about a mad Danish king.
3. I am waiting/'m waiting for you at the station. I am wearing/'m wearing a dark suit and a red tie.
4. I'm sorry I'm so tired. We are having/'re having a lot of problems at work.
5. John! Can you answer the phone, please? I am washing/'m washing my hair!
6. You are always complaining/'re always complaining about your flat. Why don't you move to a new one?