

ENGLISH 3AC · SEMESTER 2

Unit 8 (Sport)

English 3AC Unit 8 (Sport) helps you ask what athletes are doing now. Is he cycling? Are they playing basketball? You form present continuous questions, answer with is or are and correct a mistaken description. The sport vocabulary makes the grammar easier to use in a real scene.

Key points

- Questions use be + subject + verb-ing.
- Is he cycling? takes Yes, he is or No, he isn't.
- Are they playing? takes Yes, they are or No, they aren't.
- What are they doing? asks for the activity itself.
- Learn common combinations: play basketball, go cycling, do karate.
- An image of an action does not establish a final score or a daily habit.

Learning goals

- Name common sports and their actions.
- Choose play, go or do in common combinations.
- Form present continuous questions.
- Use matching short answers.
- Ask a what question about an action.
- Describe a sports scene using evidence.

Communication: asking about an activity

A picture may show a ball without making the sport immediately clear. Ask a precise question rather than guessing: Are they playing football? A helpful reply corrects the action: No, they aren't. They are playing basketball. The negative and the positive give the listener a complete answer.

Two schoolboys discuss a sports poster

Adam: Is the cyclist running? Bilal: No, he isn't. He is cycling. Adam: Are the two players playing basketball? Bilal: Yes, they are. Adam: What are they doing near the hoop? Bilal: They are practising a shot.

Sport



Ask Is he cycling? or Are they playing basketball? Use is or are again in the short answer.

Vocabulary: play, go and do

Combination	Examples	Current action
play + game	play football, basketball, tennis	He is playing tennis.
go + activity ending in ing	go cycling, swimming, running	He is cycling now.
do + selected activities	do karate, do exercise	They are doing exercise.

These are common combinations to learn as phrases, not a perfect rule for every sport. For a current scene, He is swimming is often simpler than He is going swimming. A racket, hoop, bicycle or helmet can help identify an activity, but do not add an outcome the picture does not show.

Grammar: present continuous yes/no questions

Continuous question Put am/is/are before the subject and keep verb-ing after it: He is cycling becomes Is he cycling? They are playing becomes Are they playing?

Question	Positive answer	Negative answer
Is he cycling?	Yes, he is.	No, he isn't.
Are they running?	Yes, they are.	No, they aren't.
Are you watching?	Yes, I am.	No, I am not.

Do not add do or does to this question: Does he cycling? is incorrect. Do not remove ing either: Is he cycle? is also incorrect. Use Is he cycling?

Question a sports action

- Find the subject and the correct be form.
- Move be before the subject.
- Keep the correctly spelled ing action.
- Use a short reply with the same be form, then add a correction if needed.

Grammar: what questions

What asks for information beyond yes or no. Use What + be + subject + verb-ing: What is Adam doing? What are the players doing? Reply with the actual activity, such as He is cycling or They are playing basketball. What is he playing? asks specifically for the game.

A question with a plural noun

The players are practising. → What are the players doing?

- What comes first, then are, then the subject. Doing keeps the question open so the reply can name the specific action.



What is he doing? asks for the current activity. Answer with He is running.

Study skills: use visible clues carefully

Make two lists: what the scene shows and what it does not establish. A boy on a bicycle with a helmet supports He is cycling. It does not tell you that he wins a race or cycles daily. A hoop supports a basketball description; the score requires separate information.

Skills work: reading a sports club update

The boys' sports club is using the school playground this afternoon. Adam is cycling slowly along the marked path. He is wearing a helmet and long trousers. Bilal and Hamza are playing basketball near the hoop. Sami is not playing; he is writing the scores for a practice activity. The club leader is watching the group. The text gives no final score.

The sentence about Sami contains both a rejected action and the actual action. Answer Is Sami playing? with No, he isn't. Answer What is Sami doing? with He is writing the scores. Do not confuse a role in the activity with participating as a player.

Skills work: listening and speaking

A partner reads twice: "Adam is cycling. The two players are playing basketball. Sami isn't running; he is writing." Ask one yes/no question and one what question about the script. Practise with a same-gender classmate and use an invented club.

Writing: a caption with a question

Write a caption for an imagined sports poster. Name three actions and include one question with its answer. Keep the athletes modestly dressed and the groups separate. Check whether your question uses is for one person or are for several people before checking the ing form.

Review: accurate sport questions

- Ask about cycling with Is he...?
- Ask about two players with Are they...?
- Give a negative answer and a corrected action.
- State what cannot be known when a score is absent.

Exercises: try before reading the answers

1. Choose a sport phrase

Complete with play, go or do: ... basketball; ... cycling; ... karate.

2. Ask about one athlete

Turn into questions: Adam is cycling. Sami is running.

3. Ask about a group

Turn into a question: The players are practising basketball.

4. Give sport short answers

Answer yes to Is he cycling? and no to Are they playing football?

5. Use what

Ask for the activity in each sentence: Adam is cycling. The players are practising.

6. Correct a wrong sport

Two boys are playing basketball. A question asks Are they playing football? Give a negative reply and the true action.

7. Answer a question addressed to you

You are watching a game. Answer Are you watching? positively. Explain the pronoun change.

8. Read the sports update

What is Adam doing? What are Bilal and Hamza doing? Is Sami playing?

9. Do not invent a score

Can you give the winning team or final score from the sports reading? Explain.

10. Repair sports questions

Correct: Does he cycling? Are they play basketball? What is the boys doing?

11. Listen and question

Use the listening script to write one question about Adam and one about Sami. Supply answers.

12. Write a sports caption

Write 45-65 words about a fictional single-gender sports club. Include three actions, a question, its answer and one negative.

Answers and explanations

1. Choose a sport phrase

Play basketball, go cycling and do karate. Learn these frequent combinations as full phrases.

2. Ask about one athlete

Is Adam cycling? Is Sami running? Move is before the subject and keep the ing form.

3. Ask about a group

Are the players practising basketball? The plural subject keeps are in the question.

4. Give sport short answers

Yes, he is. No, they aren't. Short answers repeat be and do not need to repeat the ing action.

5. Use what

What is Adam doing? What are the players doing? What requests the action rather than a yes/no confirmation.

6. Correct a wrong sport

No, they aren't. They are playing basketball. The first sentence rejects the wrong sport, and the second supplies the right one.

7. Answer a question addressed to you

Yes, I am. The question addresses you; you answer about yourself using I, so the verb changes from are to am.

8. Read the sports update

Adam is cycling. Bilal and Hamza are playing basketball. Sami isn't playing; he is writing the practice scores.

9. Do not invent a score

No. The passage states that no final score is given. Watching a practice activity does not establish its eventual winner.

10. Repair sports questions

Is he cycling? Are they playing basketball? What are the boys doing? Fix the continuous auxiliary, ing and plural agreement.

11. Listen and question

Is Adam cycling? Yes, he is. What is Sami doing? He is writing. Different relevant questions are acceptable if the answers agree with the script.

12. Write a sports caption

Model: Our boys' sports club is practising in the playground. Adam is cycling along the marked path. Two pupils are playing basketball near the hoop. Sami is writing the scores. Is Sami running? No, he isn't. The club leader is watching the group. The practice is still happening, so there is no final result.

Check be + ing, plural agreement and evidence for every reported detail.

Frequently asked questions

What grammar belongs to English 3AC Unit 8 Sport?

This unit practises present continuous questions and short answers. Use Is he cycling?, Are they playing? and What are they doing? to ask about current sports activities.

How do I ask a present continuous question?

Put am/is/are before the subject and retain the ing verb: He is cycling becomes Is he cycling? They are playing becomes Are they playing? Do not add do/does.

How do I answer Is he playing basketball?

Use Yes, he is or No, he isn't. If the activity was identified incorrectly, add the correct action: No, he isn't. He is playing tennis.

What is the difference between Is he cycling? and What is he doing?

Is he cycling? asks you to confirm or reject a specified action. What is he doing? asks you to name the action. A reply such as He is cycling supplies that information.

Do I use play, go or do for sports?

Learn common phrases: play football or basketball, go cycling or swimming, do karate or exercise. These are useful combinations, rather than an absolute rule that covers every sport.

Revision resource: follow the units, instructions and pace set by your teacher.

[Read the full lesson and practise on MATHFJIB.](#)