



Learn English Through Stories.

B Series

B48

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1. My Picnic Party

A Fun Picnic

A short time ago, I had a story party. I invited fourteen children to my house. It was a great party! Each child asked for a special story they liked. We had fourteen stories, and everyone was very happy. It was a big success.

Now, it's spring, and the weather is nice. I want to have a picnic on the hills. The sun is shining, and there are flowers everywhere. This time, I'm inviting thirteen children, and you are one of them! You will hear all the stories I tell at the picnic. I will also tell a special story just for you.

These are the children coming to the picnic: Sarah, Lynne, Mary, John, Catherine, David, Jane, Charles, Margaret, William, Richard, Robert, and you. That makes thirteen children.

Here is your invitation card. Please write your name on it. When you write your name, it will be yours. I hope you have already written your name!

We will meet at my house, Green Hedges. You know where it is. Then, we will walk together to High-Up Hills. We will find a nice place for our picnic. Everyone will sit down on the grass. Each child can ask for a special story they want. There are thirteen children, so I will tell thirteen stories. That's a lot of stories! We will eat our picnic in the middle of the story-telling. It will be so much fun!

Good-bye for now. I will see you on the day of the picnic.

The Picnic Day

The day of the picnic is here! When I woke up this morning, I looked outside to see the weather. I think you did too! The sun is shining brightly, and the sky is blue like forget-me-not flowers. I'm very happy, and I hope you are too!

You will come to my house at three o'clock this afternoon. All morning, I will prepare the picnic baskets. We will be hungry by half-past four, I think!

Let me tell you what is in the picnic baskets. There are many sandwiches. We have egg sandwiches. Do you like egg sandwiches? I hope you do because I made a lot! There are also sardine sandwiches. I think you like those too. We have tomato and lettuce sandwiches for people who like those. So, we have many choices.

I also made jam sandwiches. I know you like honey sandwiches, but honey is too sticky for a picnic. It can make a mess!

There is a very big fruit cake. I can cut at least twenty big pieces from it. There are two Swiss jam-rolls and lots of biscuits. Some biscuits are very small and shaped like letters. Maybe you can make your name with the biscuits! That will be fun.

We will have a wonderful picnic, don't you think? You will want something to drink, so I made six bottles of sweet lemonade. Each person will get a cardboard cup to drink from.

I hope nobody will be late. The picnic baskets are ready now—four baskets! They will be heavy to carry when we go, but much lighter when we come back because we will eat the food!

Time for the Picnic

It's almost three o'clock now. I'm waiting in my front garden for everyone to come. I can hear voices down the road. Yes, here are Sarah and Catherine at the front gate! Just behind them are Jane, Robert, and Richard.

"Hello!" calls Richard. "The others are coming. We are nice and early, aren't we?"

Then, Lynne, Mary, John, David, and William come together in a group. Now, here is Margaret. Where is Charles? Oh, there he is, and you are with him. Good! Now all thirteen children are here.

We start walking down the road and turn around the corner. We go through a small wood and across a field. Now we can see High-Up Hill. It's a steep hill, but there is a beautiful view at the top. You can see the countryside for miles. A picnic is not a real picnic without a nice view.

We sit down on the grass. There are so many daisies everywhere! Anne doesn't want to sit on the daisies. She says she loves them too much to sit on them.

Birds are singing above us. Skylarks sing in the sky, and a chaffinch sings loudly from a hedge nearby. A friendly robin hops close to us.

"He wants to hear stories too," says Catherine, laughing. "Are you going to start now?"

I look at all of you. You are sitting on the grass around me. You look excited and serious. Who will choose the first story?

“Margaret, you can choose first,” I say. “I can see you really want to tell me your story. What story do you want?”

Margaret smiles happily. “I have a little garden at home,” she says. “I just planted seeds in it. Do you know a story about a girl who planted seeds in her garden?”

“Yes, I do,” I say. “It’s about a girl who did something very funny in her garden. The story is called ‘What a Funny Thing to Do!’”

2. Comprehension

Question 1: What kind of party did the person have before the picnic?

Question 2: How many children are invited to the picnic?

Question 3: Where will the children meet for the picnic?

Question 4: What will the children do at the picnic besides eating?

Question 5: What is the weather like on the picnic day?

Question 6: What types of sandwiches are in the picnic baskets?

Question 7: Why are there no honey sandwiches at the picnic?

Question 8: What kind of cake is in the picnic baskets?

Question 9: Where will the children sit during the picnic?

Question 10: What story does Margaret want to hear?

Answers

Answer 1: A story party.

Answer 2: Thirteen children.

Answer 3: At Green Hedges, the person’s house.

Answer 4: Listen to stories.

Answer 5: The sun is shining, and the sky is blue.

Answer 6: Egg, sardine, tomato, and lettuce sandwiches.

Answer 7: Because honey is too sticky for a picnic.

Answer 8: A big fruit cake.

Answer 9: On the grass.

Answer 10: A story about a girl who planted seeds in her garden.

3. Grammar

Unit 3

I am doing (present continuous)

A



She's eating
She isn't reading.

It's raining.
The sun isn't shining

They're running.
They aren't walking.

The present continuous is:

am/is/are + doing/eating/running/writing etc.

I	am (not)	-ing
he she it	is (not)	
we you they	are (not)	

- I'm working. I'm not watching TV.
- Maria **is reading** a newspaper.
- She **isn't eating**. (or She's not eating.)
- The bus **is coming**.
- We're **having** dinner.
- You're **not listening** to me. (or You aren't listening ...)
- The children **are doing** their homework.

B

am/is/are + -ing = something is happening *now*:

I'm working
she's wearing a hat
they're playing football
I'm not watching TV

past

now

future

- Please be quiet. I'm **working**. (= I'm working now)
- Look, there's Sarah. She's **wearing** a brown coat. (= she is wearing it now)
- The weather is nice. It's **not raining**.
- 'Where are the children?' 'They're **playing** in the park.'
- (on the phone) We're **having** dinner now. Can I call you later?
- You can turn off the television. I'm **not watching** it.