Class 8 – The verb estar with conditions, emotions, present progressive

Similar to how "ser" is used with descriptive adjectives involving inherent characteristics, the verb **estar** is used to talk about our short-term conditions and emotions as well as conditions that are a result of a process. Ex. "Estoy aburrido/a – I am bored", "Las ventanas están abiertas" (The windows are open). Note that just like the adjectives that are used with **ser**, these verbs must also agree in gender and number. Here are some common adjectives used with the verb **estar**:

Abierta/o - open Ordenada/o - organized

Cerrada/o - closed Enamorada/o (de) – in love (with)

Alegre - happy Enojada/o - angry

Feliz - happy Limpia/o - clean

Triste - sad Sucia/o - dirty

Contenta/o - content Lista/o - ready

Avergonzada/o - ashamed Muerta/o - dead

Cansada/o - tired Nerviosa/o - nervous

Casada/o - married Ocupada/o - busy

(in)comoda/o – (un)comfortable Preocupada/o - worried

Desordenada/o - unorganized Segura/o – sure - safe

We also use estar as a helping verb to talk about things we're doing right now. We match the correct conjugation of estar with the "present progressive" (the -ing construction in English).

The present progressive is formed by adding -ando to the root of -ar verbs and -iendo to the root of -er and -ir verbs. Ex.

Hablar – estoy hablando (I am speaking)

Cantar – estás cantando (You are singing)

Comer – estamos comiendo (we are eating)

Escribir – están escribiendo (You all – They are writing)

Hacer – estás haciendo (You are doing-making)

There are only 3 present participles that are irregular:

Ir – yendo

Poder – pudiendo

Venir – viniendo

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-ir stem changing verbs change in a slightly different way in the present participle: e:ie – i:e – preferir – prefiriendo e:i – e:i – seguir – siguiendo u:ue – o: u - durmiendo
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When you come to practice, be prepared to answer the question, "¿Qué estás haciendo a las 3 de la tarde los miércoles?" (What are you doing at 3 in the afternoon on Wednesdays?)

Don't forget to include and conjugate the helping verb "estar" with these constructions.