“THE PRESIDENT WILL BE ATTENDING A MEETING.”
THE PRESIDENT’S SCHEDULE

LEVEL
High-Beginner to Advanced

LANGUAGE FOCUS
Grammar, speaking (primary focus); listening, writing (secondary focus)

GOALS
Students will orally use the future progressive tense to ask and answer questions regarding the United States President’s schedule on an upcoming visit to their country. Students will take notes during the questioning and use those notes to complete a newspaper story.

MATERIALS
- Teacher: whiteboard/chalkboard, markers or chalk, infographic in Appendix 1, President’s schedule in Appendix 2, newspaper story in Appendix 3, a timing device.
- Students: pencils or pens, notebooks or writing paper.

PREPARATION
1. Read through all the materials carefully.
2. This activity is an information gap activity where student B will ask questions to student A to fill in a newspaper story of the President’s schedule. For more information on using information gaps in the classroom see June’s Teacher’s Corner: (http://americanenglish.state.gov/resources/teachers-corner-speaking-information-gap-activities)
3. In this activity students will be in pairs. Student A will be the President’s Press Secretary. This student will have the President’s official schedule to deliver to newspaper reporters. Student B will be a newspaper reporter who needs information to complete the story. Print enough copies of the schedule in Appendix 2 and the newspaper story in Appendix 3 for each student.
4. Read through the President’s schedule and newspaper story carefully.
   a. In the President’s schedule student A must fill in the missing information. This information has been left blank so students can fill in information specific to their country.
   b. In the newspaper story students must use the verb in parentheses and write the correct verb tense. For example, “The President ____ (attend) ____________” can be completed as “The President will be attending”.

PROCEDURES
1. Place the Future Progressive Infographic in Appendix 1 on the board. Point to the green box on the infographic highlighting actions at specific times. Ask the students:
   a. What will you be doing tomorrow from 18:00-19:00?
i. In their answers stress the use of will + be+ verb(ing)
2. Ask the students a few more questions about their upcoming schedules using the future progressive tense.
3. After the students have practiced progressive tense have the students remain in their pairs or have them form new pairs.
4. In each pair give student A the President’s schedule (Appendix 2) and give student B the newspaper story (Appendix 3).
5. Give student A several minutes to fill out the information in the schedule. Students can use information specific to their town or country to fill out the form.
6. While student A is filling out the schedule, have student B read the newspaper story and begin preparing questions they will ask student A.
7. Once the students are ready, have student B begin asking the questions needed to fill out the information in the newspaper story.
8. Monitor the students as they complete the information gap activity and provide help as needed in constructing questions using the future progressive tense.
9. Once students have completed the activity have them switch roles and fill out new schedules and new news reports. Encourage students to role the play by using formal introductions and act out the role of Press secretary and newspaper reporter.
Appendix 1: Future Progressive Infographic

**FUTURE PROGRESSIVE**

**Action in Progress at a Time in the Future**

She will be taking an exam at 2 p.m. tomorrow, so don't call her then.

**Interrupted Action in the Future**

I will be waiting for you when you arrive tonight.

**Atmosphere in the Future**

When I arrive to class, the teacher will be talking, some students will be taking notes, and my best friend will be trying to stay awake.

**Parallel Actions in the Future**

She will be watching TV, and he will be cooking dinner.

* While he is cooking dinner, she will be watching TV.

**Emphasis of Future Plans and Intentions**

They'll be coming to visit us next week.

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* With *while,* use the present progressive in the *while* clause and future progressive in the other clause.

**AE** American English at State
Appendix 2: President’s Schedule

Official Schedule of the President’s Trip

From: The Office of the President
Subject: The President’s Official Visit to _________________

Monday
10:00
President and staff arrive in ___________

14:00 – 15:30
Lunch with ______________ in _______________

16:00 – 18:00
Meeting with _______________ to discuss ____________________________

19:00 – 22:00
Official state dinner with members of _________________ including a performance by ________________

Tuesday
9:00 – 12:00
President travels to _________________ to watch ___________________

15:00 – 17:30
President and _________________ meet privately to discuss ____________________________

19:00 – 21:30
President attends dinner with the national _________________ team.

Wednesday
7:00 – 8:00
President and staff travel to _________________

10:30 – 11:30
Speech by President to students at _________________

13:00 – 15:00
President meets with _________________ to discuss the future of _________________

17:00
Departure for the United States
Appendix 3: Newspaper Story

President’s Schedule to _______________ Announced

Earlier today the Office of the President announced the details of the president’s trip to ___(place)__________. The president’s three day trip will include stops in three cities and meetings with _____(person)____________ and _____(person)____________.

The President’s schedule will be busy over the three days as he ___(meet)____________________________ government officials, athletes, and students.

On Monday morning the President _____(arrive)_________________________ in ___(place)________________. From 14:00-15:30 the President _____(eat)________________________ at ___________________. Following lunch, the President _____(meet)_________________________ with __________________________ to discuss ____ (subject) _____________. In the evening the President ____ (attend)________________________ an official state dinner where he will watch a performance by _____________________________.

Tuesday is another busy day for the President. At 9:00, the President _____(travel)________________________ to watch ___________________________. The rest of the President’s morning is free but from 15:00-17:30 the President _____(join)________________________ our own __________________________ to discuss ___________________________. Finally, in the evening from 19:00-21:30 the President will meet and _____(have)________________________ dinner with the national __________________________ team.

From 7:00 until 11:30 Wednesday, the President _____(travel)________________________ to __________________________ and _____(speak)________________________ to a group of students at __________________________. After this the President has one last official function. From 13:00-15:00 the President _____(discuss)________________________ the future of __________________________ in a meeting with __________________________. Finally, the President will depart for the United States at 17:00.

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also known as future continuous

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