



Forum: Words, Words! All About Words ĭ¼~éƒ'½æ~æ-țâ—æƒ'çš„ç'•ĭ¼•ĭ¼%o

Topic: continual/continuous

Subject: Re: continual/continuous

Posted by: futari

Posted on: 2011/4/9 5:25:52

Quote:

Elinor wrote:

Q: She keeps on eating meat despite her doctor's continual/continuous warning.

Which is correct?

Thanks.

1) CONTINUAL (adjective)

>> suggests keeping on going or existing with brief intervals

(e.g.) Continual practice is necessary to become a champion.

(e.g.) The shortage of money is a continual worry.

(e.g.) There is a continual applause.

2) CONTINUOUS (adjective)

>> suggests happening or existing without stopping

(e.g.) The brain needs a continuous supply of food.

(e.g.) On August 28, after 3 days of continuous travel, they arrived in Edinburgh.

(e.g.) A continuous steel making process is now being developed.

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HTH.

More info:-

1) CONTINUAL is chiefly restricted to what is intermittent or repeated at intervals.

(e.g.) The continual banging of the shutter in the wind gave me a headache.

2) CONTINUOUS implies lack of interruption.

(e.g.) The horizon is a continuous line.

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1) CONTINUAL (usually used to describe bad or irritating ongoing of things at intervals such as --> continual hammering / these continual interruptions to our conversation)

2) CONTINUOUS (used to express non-stopping of an ongoing action such as --> three days' continuous flight)

The following sentence will give you more hints on how they differ from each other:
I couldn't pursue a CONTINUOUS train of thought because of CONTINUAL calls.
