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Hello, I am a bit puzzled by the use of the continuous form of the verb bet in the following sentence: "It compares with the big ones—1907, 1929—and we cannot yet know its full consequences for the financial system, the economy or society as a whole. I'm betting that, in the end, the world's governments will win this battle against fear. They have potentially unlimited tools at their disposal, especially if they act in concert. (source) Is there any significant difference between the present simple form (I bet that....) and the example in bold? Thank you! Hello, I am a bit puzzled by the use of the continuous form of the verb bet in the following sentence: "It compares with the big ones—1907, 1929—and we cannot yet know its full consequences for the financial system, the economy or society as a whole. I'm betting that, in the end, the world's governments will win this battle against fear. They have potentially unlimited tools at their disposal, especially if they act in concert. (source) Is there any significant difference between the present simple form (I bet that....) and the example in bold? Thank you! Interesting question! There is a difference in nuance - but I'm finding it really hard to define. I think it has to do with the fact that if the author said "I bet that, in the end, the world's governments will win" then he has already made his mind up, and this is his opinion. By saying "I'm betting that..." it makes it sound much less certain. I think that "I'm betting that" is more synonymous with "I reckon that..." than "I bet that..." Perhaps it has to do with the fact that the continuous form suggest that that is what he is betting right now, and so by implication this opinion might well change. Actually - in rereading my very own post here I think I see a similar phenomenon in when I wrote "I'm finding it hard to explain..." If I had said "I find it hard to explain" then that's much more factual "this is something I always find hard to explain". "I'm finding hard to explain" suggests (hopes!) that I might resolve my difficulty with it. There is no fundamental difference in meaning. "I'm betting" just gives the statement more "currency" (i.e. "this is my current expectation"). Thank you for your kind input!