47 The five senses

SENSE	EXAMPLE	MEANING
SIGHT	*__Look__ carefully and you __can see__ the bridge over the river.*	**look** turn your eyes to sth and pay attention to it **see** know or notice sth using your eyes
	I often __watch__ the birds from the bridge.	**watch** pay attention to sth for some time
HEARING	*I can __hear__ something outside.*	When you **hear** sth, sounds come to your ears.
	I __listened to__ the news this morning.	When you **listen**, you are trying to hear sth.
	Jason __sounded angry__ this morning.	**sound** seem in a certain way when you hear sth
SMELL	*I can __smell__ something strange.*	**smell** notice sth using your nose
TASTE	*This cake really __tastes of__ coffee.*	**taste** have a particular flavour
	Jo __tasted__ the cheese.	**taste** eat or drink a little of sth to test its flavour
TOUCH	*When I __touched__ the back wall, it __felt__ a bit wet.*	**touch** put your hand or fingers on sth **feel** used for saying how sth seems to you when you touch, see, smell or experience it
	__Feel__ this material.	
	__Press__ the button and wait.	**press** push sth to make a machine work / a bell ring

COMMON CONSTRUCTIONS	
VERB + adjective	**VERB + *like* + noun**
I thought Sarah __looked__ sad.	*Simon __looks like__ his brother.*
The boys __sounded__ pleased when they rang me.	*This music __sounds like__ Bach.*
This soup __smells__ horrible.	*Nectarines __taste like__ peaches.*

VERB + *as if /as though* + clause
There are lots of dark clouds. It __looks as if__ it's going to rain.
I spoke to Alex yesterday. He __sounded as though__ he's enjoying university.

SENSE VERBS AS NOUNS: *look, sound* and *taste*
I liked __the look of__ the cottage. = the appearance of it
I love __the sound of__ birds singing.
I don't like __the taste of__ garlic.

SPOTLIGHT *can* + sense verbs

We don't use *see, hear, smell* or *taste* in the continuous tenses. We often use **can** with sense verbs.

- *I __can see__ several boats in this photo.* (NOT ~~*I see*~~ OR ~~*I'm seeing*~~ *several boats.*)
- *I __can't hear__ what they're saying.* (NOT ~~*I don't hear ...*~~)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Circle the correct verb.

▶ She told me to *look at* / *see* the board and pay attention.

1 What programmes do you ***hear / listen to*** on the radio?

2 What can you ***smell / smell like***?

3 What can you ***hear / listen to*** at the moment?

4 What does your mobile phone ringtone ***sound / sound like***?

5 If you put your hand out, can you ***feel / touch*** another person?

6 Just ***press / feel*** the bell, and somebody should come and help us.

7 What can you ***see / look at*** from where you are sitting?

8 Put your hand on your shoes. How do they ***touch / feel***?

9 What programmes do you usually ***watch / look at*** on TV?

10 When you buy a new jumper, do you always ***feel / press*** it first?

2 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb.

▶ This soup tastes horrible. There's too much salt in it.

1 You have to ..... the switch, and the machine will start working.

2 I ..... hear a bird singing. It ..... like a blackbird.

3 Why is that man ..... at me? Have I done something wrong?

4 Please don't ..... the door: the paint is still wet.

5 Did you see Nadia last night? I thought she ..... ill.

6 I didn't know what the fruit was, so I ..... a bit. It was delicious.

7 I was trying to ..... to the music, but lots of people were talking.

8 Can you ..... something burning? It must be the toast.

9 Marco ..... as if he's walked 20 kilometres.

10 My head ..... very hot. I think I've got a temperature.

3 Complete the sentences with a suitable sense verb and suitable adjective.

▶ Molly was happy to take the exam. She sounded confident.

1 I washed the floor this morning but it already ....

2 He was awake most of the night, and when he spoke he ....

3 The jam .... because I put a lot of sugar in it.

4 When I put my T-shirt on, it ....

5 When I took the cups out of the dishwasher, they didn't ....

6 They hadn't turned on the heating, so the room ....

7 I think bread .... when it has just come out of the oven.

8 Liam explained exactly how to do it, and it ....

4 Use *like* or *as if / though*, then complete each sentence in a logical way.

▶ Why is the man holding out his hand? ~ Not sure, but it looks as if he wants money.

1 Did you hear that crash? ~ Yes, it sounds .....

2 What's that woman doing on the floor? ~ It looks .....

3 Can you hear those men shouting at each other? ~ Yes. It sounds .....

4 The team are playing very badly. ~ I know. It looks .....

5 Simon has a plan for the party. ~ Yes, and it sounds .....

6 What's that man doing on the bridge? ~ I don't know, but it looks .....

5 ABOUT YOU Write your answers to the questions, or ask another student.

1 Do you look like your parents? .....

2 Do you have brothers or sisters that look like you? .....

3 Do you often look as if you're bored? .....

4 Do you usually sound as though you're very confident about things? .....

5 Do you often feel nervous? .....

6 Do you like the taste of garlic? .....

7 Do you like the smell of fried fish? .....

8 Do you feel positive about your future? .....

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS