

Non-Action (Stative) Verbs

Some verbs **do not describe actions**. These verbs are called non-action verbs. They are also called stative verbs. **Do not use non-action verbs in the present-progressive tense, even when something is happening right now.**

Complete the examples below using SIMPLE PRESENT.

1. Some non-action verbs express <u>emotions</u> .							
admire	adore	appreciate	care	detest	dislike	doubt	
envy	fear	hate	hope	like	love	mind	need
Example:		prefer	want				
✓ Carol <u>loves</u> (love) her grandmother.		✓ Doug _____ (like) soccer.					
✗ Carol is loving her grandmother.		✗ Doug is liking soccer.					
✓ Stuart _____ (hate) mushrooms.		✓ Taylor _____ (need) eggs for the recipe.					
✗ Stuart is hating mushroom.		✗ Taylor is needing eggs for the recipe.					
2. Some non-action verbs describe <u>senses</u> .							
feel	hear	notice	observe	perceive	see	smell	taste
✓ The music _____ (sound) romantic.		✓ Yoko _____ (feel) upset.					
✗ The music is sounding romantic.		✗ Yoko is feeling upset.					
✓ The cookies _____ (taste) sweet.		✓ The fox _____ (notice) the person.					
✗ The cookies are tasting sweet.		✗ The fox is noticing the person.					
3. Some non-action verbs describe <u>mental states</u>							
agree	assume	believe	consider	disagree	estimate	expect	find
guess	hesitate	hope	imagine	know	mean	presume	realize
recognize	remember	understand	wonder				
✓ Carol _____ (know) you.		✓ They _____ (recognize) her voice.					
✗ Carol is knowing you.		✗ They are recognizing her voice.					
✓ She _____ (understand) you.		✓ He _____ (find) it hard to believe.					
✗ She is understanding you.		✗ He is finding it hard to believe.					
4. Some non-action verbs show <u>possession</u> .							
belong	contain	have	include	involve	own	possess	
✓ I _____ (have) a red sports car.		✓ The book _____ (belong) to him.					
✗ I am having a red sports car.		✗ The book is belonging to him.					
✓ The family _____ (own) a dog.		✓ The price _____ (include) tax.					
✗ The family is owning a dog.		✗ The price is including tax.					
5. Note that <u>be</u> is also a non-action verb.							
✓ I _____ (be) tired now.		✓ He _____ (be) a student.					
✗ I am being tired now.		✗ He is being a student.					

6. Some non-actions verbs can also be used as action verbs. In these cases, the meanings of the verbs change, and they take the role of action verbs.

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| ✓ I _____ (have) a new car. | ✓ I'm tasting the turkey. |
| ✓ I'm having trouble with it. | ✓ It _____ (taste) delicious. |
| ✓ I'm thinking about English grammar. | |
| ✓ I _____ (think) it's interesting. | |

Select the correct verb or verb phrase in each sentence.

- Taylor:** There (**are / are being**) so many people at this movie!
- Marcy:** (**Are you recognizing / Do you recognize**) anyone?
- Taylor:** No, I (**am not thinking / don't think**) that I (**know / am knowing**) anyone.
- Marcy:** Hey, I (**think / 'm thinking**) I (**am seeing / see**) our teacher.
- Taylor:** Oh yes! I (**am seeing / see**) her too!
- Marcy:** What (**'s / 's being**) that noise?
- Taylor:** I (**am not hearing / don't hear**) anything.
- Marcy:** You (**aren't listening / don't listen**) closely.
- Taylor:** Oh, that noise. It (**sounds / is sounding**) like the movie (**starts / is starting**).
- Marcy:** No, that's not what I (**am meaning / mean**). There's another noise.
- Taylor:** It (**is sounding / sounds**) like someone (**is singing / sings**).
- Marcy:** You're right. I (**am thinking / think**) there (**is / is being**) a concert in the other theatre.
- Taylor:** I (**am wondering / wonder**) who (**is performing / performs**).
- Marcy:** I (**don't know / am not knowing**). Let's go see.

Drag the words below to write sentences in the simple present or present continuous.

1. getting / Aren't / hungry? / you

2. cost? / How much / does / it

3. wearing / jackets? / Why / they / aren't

4. you / Are / picking up / the groceries?

5. a car? / have / you / Do
