Stative verbs vs. **Active verbs**

Some verbs are not usually used in continuous tenses. They are called *stative because* they describe states and not actions. To talk about the present, we use these verbs in the Present Simple.

E.g.

I know the truth about your sister! - RIGHT

I'm knowing what you're up to, Amy! - WRONG

1. Some verbs can be both stative verbs and action verbs, but with a different meaning, like you have just discovered in the previous competition.

1. I **expect** you're looking forward to the party. THINK/BELIEVE We'**re expecting** visitors this weekend WAITING FOR 2. Jeremy **has** a fast car. OWNS Ken **is having** a terrible time in Germany. EXPERIENCING Jerry'**s having** breakfast at the hotel. EATING 3. He **looks like** his grandfather. RESEMBLES I'**m looking** for my blue scarf. SEARCHING FOR 4. The soup **tastes** delicious. HAS A FLAVOR Why **are** you **tasting** the milk? (PERFORMING THE ACTION OF) TASTING THE FLAVOR	5. I **think** rock music is the best! BELIEVE/ HAVE THE OPINION We'**re thinking** of doing a computer course. CONSIDERING 6. 'My Aunt Jennifer is my dad's sister!' 'Oh, I **see.**' UNDERSTAND I'**m seeing** the dentist tomorrow. MEETING 7. This perfume **smells** lovely. HAS A PARTICULAR SMELL Why **is** John **smelling** the cream? (PERFORMING THE ACTION OF) SMELLING 8. Kevin **weighs** 68 kilos. HAS A PARTICULAR WEIGHT The shop assistant **is weighing** the apples. (PERFORMING THE ACTION OF) MEASURING THE WEIGHT

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2. Based on the examples above, match the most common stative verbs, shown in column A, with the categories shown in column B. Can you think of other examples for each category?

A	B
1) Hate, like, love, need, prefer, want	a) Verbs of possession
2) Feel, hear, see, smell, sound, taste	b) Verbs which express a state of mind
3) Believe, doubt, forget, imagine, know, remember, seem, suppose, think	c) Other verbs
4) Belong to, have, own, possess	d) Verbs of emotion
5) Be, consist, contain, cost, include, mean	e) Verbs of senses

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