Verbs

agree / disagree
appear
believe
belong to
can't stand
cost
dislike / like
doubt
enjoy
fancy
feel (also *have an opinion*)
fit
guess
hate
have
hear
hope
know
lack
look (also = *seem*)
love
matter
mean
measure (= be long)
(not) mind
prefer
possess
owe
own
realise
remember
see (*meet / understand*)
seem
smell
sound
suppose
taste
think (=*consider*)
touch
understand
want
weigh
wish
wonder

Stative Verbs Use

Most stative or state verbs refer to a state rather than action. Stative verbs are verbs which we use in the Present Simple, even if they are happening now. Example: *Now, I know the answer!*

However, in situations where they refer to an action which is taking place at that moment, we use the Present Continuous tense.
Examples: *I think that coffee is great* (= have an opinion)
I'm thinking about my next holiday. (= have in my head)

Certain stative verbs change their meaning when they are used in the Present Continuous.
Examples: *I'm seeing Tom tomorrow.* (= meet)
I see what you mean. (= understand)

Sometimes stative verbs are used in the present continuous to emphasize change or development. This use is informal.
Example: *You are being very naughty, Tom! Behave yourself!*

There are three main categories of stative verbs (feelings, thoughts and senses) and two small categories (possession and measurement). Complete the charts below with the right stative verbs from the box on the left according to their categories.

Thoughts:

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Feelings:

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Senses:

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Measurement:

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Possession:

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More Stative Verbs: adore, astonish, bet (opinion), contain, concern, consist of, decide, deny, deserve, desire, detest, imagine, impress, include, involve, please, promise, recognise, remain, require, resemble, satisfy, surprise, suspect...

LIVEWORKSHEETS