

Non-continuous Verbs



- are conditions or situations that exist
- do not involve actions
- can't be progressive

categories	verbs	examples
MENTAL ACTIVITY AND ATTITUDES	know, think, understand, recognize, remember, want, need, appreciate, feel (=think), appear	He understands the problem (correct) He is understanding the problem (wrong!)
FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS	love, like, hate, astonish, surprise, impress, please, amaze, adore, detest, enjoy, forgive, loathe	I hate olives (correct) I'm hating olives (wrong!)
SENSES	hear, see, sound, taste, feel, smell	Your idea sounds nice (correct) Your idea is sounding nice (wrong!)
OPINION	agree, believe, expect (=think), see (=understand), suppose, mean, prefer, seem,	I prefer tea to coffee (correct) I'm preferring tea to coffee (wrong!)
POSSESSION	have (=possess), belong, possess, own	He has a sister (correct) He is having a sister (wrong!)
MEASURES	measure, reach, cost, weigh, contain	it costs 20\$ (correct) It is costing 20\$ (wrong!)

Some stative verbs have progressive forms but there is a difference in meaning

state	action
He thinks he's really clever (=he believes) What does it taste like? (What is its flavour)	I'm thinking about his offer (I'm considering) He is tasting the food to see if it's good (he is tasting the flavour)
He has two houses (he owns, possesses) The silk shirt feels soft (it has a soft texture) Do you see what I mean? (do you understand) Your perfume smells of apples (it has the smell)	He's having lunch (he is eating) Ann is feeling the cat's fur (she is touching it) I'm seeing Paula tonight (I'm meeting her) She is smelling the roses (she is trying the smell of)
I love/enjoy good films (I like in general) It looks as if it's going to rain (it appears) He appears to be working (he seems to be)	I'm loving/enjoying (I like specifically) He is looking at the painting (he is viewing it) The opera singer is appearing on stage tonight (he will make an appearance)
The box is heavy. It weighs a lot (its weight is) Bobby is naughty (his character is bad) These shoes fit me perfectly (they are the right size)	He is weighing the potatoes on the scales (he is finding out the weight of) Suzy is being very naughty now (she is misbehaving) We are fitting a new carpet in the hall (laying)

Task 1. Choose the correct form



- a. I _____ (have) a great time.
- b. She _____ (have) plenty of money just now.
- c. He _____ (appear) at the Fortune Theatre next week.
- d. She _____ (appear) to have a problem.
- e. Why you _____ (look) at me like that?
- f. It _____ (look) as if it's going to rain.
- g. I _____ (see) what they are trying to say.
- h. I _____ (see) the manager this afternoon.
- i. I _____ (think) you are right.
- j. What _____ (you think) about?
- k. I _____ (feel) very tired today.
- l. I _____ (feel) she is making a mistake.

Task 2. Put the words into the correct form, present continuous or present simple.

1. Are you hungry? _____ something to eat? (want)
2. Jill is interested in politics but she _____ to a political party. (not/belong)
3. Don't put the dictionary away! I _____ it. (use)
4. Don't put the dictionary away! I _____ it. (need)
5. Who is that man? What _____ (he/want)
6. Who is that man? Why _____ at us? (he/look)
7. George says he's 80 years old but nobody _____ him. (believe)
8. She told me her name but I _____ it now. (not /remember)
9. I _____ of selling my car (think). Would you be interested in buying it?
10. I _____ you should sell your car (think) You _____ it very often. (not/use)
11. I used to drink a lot of coffee but these days I _____ tea. (prefer)
12. Air _____ mainly of nitrogen and oxygen. (consist)