

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