

# 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.

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ✓ I _____ (have) a new car.                  | ✓ I'm <b>tasting</b> the turkey. |
| ✓ I'm <b>having</b> trouble with it.         | ✓ It _____ (taste) delicious.    |
| ✓ I'm <b>thinking</b> 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

\_\_\_\_\_