

## Stative Verbs

Some verbs rarely appear in the continuous tenses. These verbs express a permanent state and they are: **appear** (= seem), **be**, **believe**, **belong**, **cost**, **feel**, **forget**, **hate**, **have** (= possess), **know**, **like**, **love**, **mean**, **need**, **prefer**, **realise**, **remember**, **see**, **seem**, **smell**, **sound**, **suppose**, **taste**, **think**, **understand**, **want**, etc.

I understand it now. NOT I am ~~understanding~~ it now.

Some of these verbs can be used in continuous tenses but with a difference in meaning.

### Present Simple

I **think** he's Italian.

(= believe)

Katie **looks** happy.

(= appears to be)

You can **see** the sea from my room.

(= it is visible)

Derek **has** a new car.

(= possesses)

This pie **tastes** really good.

(= it has a really good flavour)

This new dress **fits** her perfectly.

(= it is her size)

He **is** so polite.

(= that's his character)

She **appears** to be tired.

(= seems)

### Present Continuous

Tom **is thinking** of moving house.

(= is considering)

They **are looking** at the paintings.

(= are taking a look at)

Sam **is seeing** his friends tonight.

(= is meeting)

We **are having** dinner at 8 o'clock.

(= are eating)

Paul **is tasting** the soup to see if it needs salt.

(= is trying)

He **is fitting** a new lock on the door.

(= is attaching)

He **is being** so rude today!

(= he is behaving like that only today)

She **is appearing** in a new TV show.

(= is taking part)

## 22 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

1 A: I ..... *see* ..... (see) you still have a toothache.

B: Yes, I do. Actually, I ..... (see) my dentist later.

2 A: I ..... (think) of visiting Jim this afternoon.

B: Don't bother. I ..... (think) he's on a business trip.

3 A: Why ..... (Greg/be) so rude today?

B: I have no idea. He ..... (be) usually very polite.

4 A: Why ..... (you/taste) the sauce? Does it need more pepper?

B: No. It ..... (taste) great the way it is.

5 A: Why ..... (you/smell) the milk?

B: Because it ..... (smell) off. We should throw it away.

6 A: I see you ..... (have) a new mobile phone.

B: Yes, but I ..... (have) trouble understanding how it works.

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Use the verbs to complete the sentences. Use the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

fit

look

have

smell

think

appear

prefer

not/know

not/like

not/belong

- 1 Aya ..... *prefers* ..... classical music to jazz and pop.
- 2 He ..... new cabinets in the kitchen.
- 3 She ..... so relieved now that the test is over.
- 4 Tom ..... Indian food. It's too hot and spicy for him.
- 5 The new rock band ..... on stage tonight.

- 6 This isn't Ahmed's coat. It ..... to him.
- 7 The food ..... nice.
- 8 The funfair rides are exciting. We ..... a great time!
- 9 I ..... where Jane is at the moment.
- 10 The Browns ..... of going to the theatre tonight.

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Underline the correct item.

- 1 The children are having / have so much fun at the circus!
- 2 Fiona is looking / looks at some photos.
- 3 This jacket is fitting / fits you perfectly. You should buy it.

- 4 Ron is wanting / wants to become a pilot.
- 5 I am not understanding / don't understand the meaning of that word.
- 6 He is loving / loves playing football.
- 7 I am thinking / think of buying a new CD.

**9**

Underline the correct item.

- 1 I see / am seeing that the situation is out of control.
- 2 The sausages are tasting / taste delicious.
- 3 Do you enjoy / Are you enjoying the party?
- 4 You haven't said a word all morning. What are you thinking / do you think about?
- 5 He has / is having a Siamese cat.
- 6 These flowers are smelling / smell nice.
- 7 I don't know / am not knowing where she keeps the keys.

- 8 These silk sheets feel / are feeling lovely and smooth.
- 9 Why do you smell / are you smelling the milk? Do you think it has gone off?
- 10 Anna is Italian. She is coming / comes from Italy.
- 11 That dress looks / is looking nice on you.
- 12 If you don't look / aren't looking at that comic book, I'd like to see it.
- 13 The doctor weights / is weighing the baby.
- 14 Mary is / is being very naughty these days.

**10**

Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.

- 1 A: I ..... *in thinking* ..... (think) about going to see Green Day in concert next month.  
B: Great! I ..... (think) they're the best. I'll come with you.
- 2 A: Why ..... (you/weigh) yourself?  
B: I want to see if I ..... (weigh) enough for my height.
- 3 A: Your baby brother ..... (be) adorable!  
B: Yes, but today he ..... (be) really naughty. He keeps drawing on the wall.
- 4 A: I see you ..... (have) a new mobile phone.  
B: Yes, but I ..... (have) problems with it at the moment.
- 5 A: Why ..... (you/taste) the soup? It's not ready yet.  
B: To see if it ..... (taste) sweet enough for the children.
- 6 A: Do you know where Mike ..... (come) from?  
B: He's from Glasgow. Actually, he's there at the moment but he ..... (come) back tomorrow.
- 7 A: I ..... (see) Charlotte has toothache.  
B: Yes. She's in a lot of pain. She ..... (see) her dentist this afternoon, though.