Actions VS States

2 I think/I'm thinking etc.

Sometimes we can use a verb either for a state or for an action.

STATES (simple tenses)	ACTIONS (simple or continuous)
*I **think** you're right.* (= believe)	*I'm **thinking** about the problem.*
*We **have** three cars.* (= own)	*We're **having** lunch.* (= eating)
*I **come** from Sweden.* (= live in)	*I'm **coming** from Sweden.* (= travelling)
	*I usually **come** on the plane.*
*I **see** your problem.* (= understand)	*Mark **is seeing** his boss.* (= meeting)
*Do you **see** that house?* (= have in sight)	*I **see** Daniel quite often.*
*This picture **looks** nice.*	*I'm **looking** at this picture.*
*She **appears** very nervous.* (= seems)	*She **appeared/was appearing** in a film.*
*The bag **weighed** five kilos.*	*They **weighed/were weighing** my bag.*
*The coat **fits**.* (= is the right size)	*I'm **fitting** a lock to the window.*

These examples with the verb **be** are about how people behave.

PERMANENT QUALITY	TEMPORARY BEHAVIOUR
*Claire **is** a very sociable person.*	*Andrew **is being** very sociable today.*
*That man **is** an idiot.*	*You **are being** an idiot this morning.* (= You are behaving like an idiot.)

We use **am/are/is being** only to talk about behaviour, not about other things.

I'm better now, thanks. *Are you ready?* *Is anyone interested?*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

I think/I'm thinking etc. (2)

Complete the conversation. Choose the correct form of the verb.

Emma: Hi, Matthew. What (▶) ~~do you look~~/are you looking at?
Matthew: Oh, hi. These are photos of me when I was a child.
Emma: Oh, look at this one. (1) I think/I'm thinking you look lovely, Matthew.
Matthew: (2) I have/I'm having some more photos here.
Emma: Look at this. Why such a big coat?
Matthew: It was my brother's. That's why (3) it didn't fit/it wasn't fitting properly.
Emma: Oh, (4) I see/I'm seeing. And (5) you have/you're having your tea here. And in this one (6) you think/you're thinking about something very serious.
Matthew: This is a photo of the village (7) I come/I'm coming from.
Emma: Oh, that's nice.
Matthew: And I caught this fish, look. (8) It weighed/It was weighing about half a kilo.
Emma: What a nice little boy! And what a sentimental old thing you are now!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The verb be (2)

Put in the correct form of *be*.

▶ Daniel is doing some of the work. He 's being very helpful at the moment.
▶ I'm tired. I want to go home.
1 The children ..... very polite today. They don't usually behave so well.
2 I'm afraid Melanie can't come because she ..... ill.
3 Of course you can understand it. You ..... stupid, that's all.
4 We ..... interested in doing a course here.
5 Vicky ..... very lazy at the moment. She's done no work at all today.

LIVEWORKSHEETS