


47 The five senses



SENSE	EXAMPLE	MEANING
SIGHT	<i>Look carefully and you can see the bridge over the river.</i>	look turn your eyes to sth and pay attention to it see know or notice sth using your eyes
	<i>I often watch the birds from the bridge.</i>	watch pay attention to sth for some time
HEARING	<i>I can hear something outside.</i>	When you hear sth, sounds come to your ears.
	<i>I listened to the news this morning.</i>	When you listen , you are trying to hear sth.
	<i>Jason sounded angry this morning.</i>	sound seem in a certain way when you hear sth
SMELL	<i>I can smell something strange.</i>	smell notice sth using your nose
TASTE	<i>This cake really tastes of coffee.</i>	taste have a particular flavour
	<i>Jo tasted the cheese.</i>	taste eat or drink a little of sth to test its flavour
TOUCH	<i>When I touched the back wall, it felt a bit wet.</i>	touch put your hand or fingers on sth feel used for saying how sth seems to you when you touch, see, smell or experience it
	<i>Feel this material.</i>	
	<i>Press the button and wait.</i> 	press push sth to make a machine work / a bell ring

COMMON CONSTRUCTIONS

VERB + adjective

*I thought Sarah **looked** sad.*

*The boys **sounded** pleased when they rang me.*

*This soup **smells** horrible.*

VERB + like + noun

*Simon **looks like** his brother.*

*This music **sounds like** Bach.*

*Nectarines **taste like** peaches.*

VERB + as if / as though + clause

*There are lots of dark clouds. It **looks as if** it's going to rain.*

*I spoke to Alex yesterday. He **sounded as though** he's enjoying university.*

SENSE VERBS AS NOUNS: look, sound and taste

*I **liked the look of** the cottage. = the appearance of it*

*I **love the sound of** birds singing.*

*I **don't like the taste of** garlic.*

SPOTLIGHT **can** + sense verbs

We don't use *see, hear, smell or taste* in the continuous tenses. We often use **can** with sense verbs.

■ *I **can see** several boats in this photo. (NOT ~~I see~~ OR ~~I'm seeing~~ several boats.)*

■ *I **can't hear** what they're saying. (NOT ~~I don't hear~~...)*

1 Circle the correct verb.

- She told me to look at / see the board and pay attention.
- What programmes do you *hear* / *listen to* on the radio?
 - What can you *smell* / *smell like*?
 - What can you *hear* / *listen to* at the moment?
 - What does your mobile phone ringtone *sound* / *sound like*?
 - If you put your hand out, can you *feel* / *touch* another person?
 - Just *press* / *feel* the bell, and somebody should come and help us.
 - What can you *see* / *look at* from where you are sitting?
 - Put your hand on your shoes. How do they *touch* / *feel*?
 - What programmes do you usually *watch* / *look at* on TV?
 - When you buy a new jumper, do you always *feel* / *press* it first?

2 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb.

- This soup tastes horrible. There's too much salt in it.
- You have to _____ the switch, and the machine will start working.
 - I _____ hear a bird singing. It _____ like a blackbird.
 - Why is that man _____ at me? Have I done something wrong?
 - Please don't _____ the door: the paint is still wet.
 - Did you see Nadia last night? I thought she _____ ill.
 - I didn't know what the fruit was, so I _____ a bit. It was delicious.
 - I was trying to _____ to the music, but lots of people were talking.
 - Can you _____ something burning? It must be the toast.
 - Marco _____ as if he's walked 20 kilometres.
 - My head _____ very hot. I think I've got a temperature.

3 Complete the sentences with a suitable sense verb and suitable adjective.

- Molly was happy to take the exam. She sounded confident.
- I washed the floor this morning but it already _____.
 - He was awake most of the night, and when he spoke he _____.
 - The jam _____ because I put a lot of sugar in it.
 - When I put my T-shirt on, it _____.
 - When I took the cups out of the dishwasher, they didn't _____.
 - They hadn't turned on the heating, so the room _____.
 - I think bread _____ when it has just come out of the oven.
 - Liam explained exactly how to do it, and it _____.

4 Use like or as if / though, then complete each sentence in a logical way.

- Why is the man holding out his hand? ~ Not sure, but it looks as if he wants money.
- Did you hear that crash? ~ Yes, it sounds _____.
 - What's that woman doing on the floor? ~ It looks _____.
 - Can you hear those men shouting at each other? ~ Yes. It sounds _____.
 - The team are playing very badly. ~ I know. It looks _____.
 - Simon has a plan for the party. ~ Yes, and it sounds _____.
 - What's that man doing on the bridge? ~ I don't know, but it looks _____.

5 ABOUT YOU Write your answers to the questions, or ask another student.

- Do you look like your parents? _____
- Do you have brothers or sisters that look like you? _____
- Do you often look as if you're bored? _____
- Do you usually sound as though you're very confident about things? _____
- Do you often feel nervous? _____
- Do you like the taste of garlic? _____
- Do you like the smell of fried fish? _____
- Do you feel positive about your future? _____



TEST YOURSELF