47 The five senses



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

COMMON CONSTRUCTIONS	
VERB + adjective	**VERB + *like* + noun**
I thought Sarah looked sad.	*Simon looks like his brother.*
The boys sounded pleased when they rang me.	*This music sounds like Bach.*
This soup smells horrible.	*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 ...*~~)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Circle the correct verb.

▶ She told me to *look at / see* the board and pay attention.

1 What programmes do you ***hear / listen to*** on the radio?
2 What can you ***smell / smell like***?
3 What can you ***hear / listen to*** at the moment?
4 What does your mobile phone ringtone ***sound / sound like***?
5 If you put your hand out, can you ***feel / touch*** another person?
6 Just ***press / feel*** the bell, and somebody should come and help us.
7 What can you ***see / look at*** from where you are sitting?
8 Put your hand on your shoes. How do they ***touch / feel***?
9 What programmes do you usually ***watch / look at*** on TV?
10 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.
1 You have to _____ the switch, and the machine will start working.
2 I _____ hear a bird singing. It _____ like a blackbird.
3 Why is that man _____ at me? Have I done something wrong?
4 Please don't _____ the door: the paint is still wet.
5 Did you see Nadia last night? I thought she _____ ill.
6 I didn't know what the fruit was, so I _____ a bit. It was delicious.
7 I was trying to _____ to the music, but lots of people were talking.
8 Can you _____ something burning? It must be the toast.
9 Marco _____ as if he's walked 20 kilometres.
10 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.
1 I washed the floor this morning but it already _____ _____.
2 He was awake most of the night, and when he spoke he _____ _____.
3 The jam _____ _____ because I put a lot of sugar in it.
4 When I put my T-shirt on, it _____ _____.
5 When I took the cups out of the dishwasher, they didn't _____ _____.
6 They hadn't turned on the heating, so the room _____ _____.
7 I think bread _____ _____ when it has just come out of the oven.
8 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.
1 Did you hear that crash? ~ Yes, it sounds _____.
2 What's that woman doing on the floor? ~ It looks _____.
3 Can you hear those men shouting at each other? ~ Yes. It sounds _____.
4 The team are playing very badly. ~ I know. It looks _____.
5 Simon has a plan for the party. ~ Yes, and it sounds _____.
6 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.

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

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS