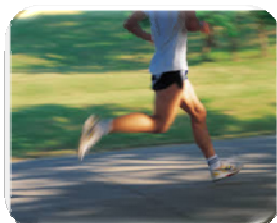


Verbs: stative or continuous?

Continuous verbs (actions)

Continuous verbs are actions that you can usually see happening. They are usually easy to control.

A man is running in the park.



Can you see someone “run”? → Yes
Is it easy to control? → Yes

“Run” is an action that you can control. It’s an example of a continuous verb.

Stative verbs (states)

Stative verbs are states (not actions) that you can’t usually see happening. They are usually difficult to control.

This man loves his girlfriend.



Can you see someone “love”? → No
Is it easy to control? → No

“Love” is a state that you can’t control. It’s an example of a stative verb.

.....fold here.....

1. Decide if the 4 verbs below (underlined in the sentences) are *stative* or *continuous*.
(circle the correct answer)
2. What tense is used with *continuous verbs*? What tense is used with *stative verbs*?

She understands physics.

to understand = stative verb / continuous verb



They are singing a song.

to sing = stative verb / continuous verb



He is eating a burger.

to eat = stative verb / continuous verb



He has an iPhone.

to have = stative verb / continuous verb



More stative / continuous verbs

- Decide if each verb is **stative** or **continuous**. (circle the correct answer)
- Remember that when you are talking about the present moment:
 - *Continuous verbs* are usually actions you can see and/or are easy to control.
 - *Stative verbs* are usually states you can't see and/or are not easy to control.

Run	stative / <u>continuous</u>	Mean	stative / continuous
Eat	stative / <u>continuous</u>	Smile	stative / continuous
Sing	stative / <u>continuous</u>	Laugh	stative / continuous
Understand	<u>stative</u> / continuous	Speak	stative / continuous
Love	<u>stative</u> / continuous	Sit	stative / continuous
Like	stative / continuous	Hate	stative / continuous
Stand	stative / continuous	Know	stative / continuous
Walk	stative / continuous	Sleep	stative / continuous
Fall	stative / continuous	Drive	stative / continuous
Hold	stative / continuous	Look like	stative / continuous
Lift	stative / continuous	Wear	stative / continuous
Care	stative / continuous	Cry	stative / continuous
Want	stative / continuous	Jump	stative / continuous
Write	stative / continuous	Agree	stative / continuous
Talk	stative / continuous	Believe	stative / continuous
Rain	stative / continuous	Watch	stative / continuous
Promise	stative / continuous	See	stative / continuous
Prefer	stative / continuous	Hear	stative / continuous
Remember	stative / continuous	Listen	stative / continuous

Verbs that can be stative or continuous

Decide if each sentence matches definition **A** or definition **B**.

- A)** Think (an action your brain does) = to solve a problem in your head.
B) Think (a state) = to have an opinion.

- 1) I've just read the question and now I'm thinking of the answer. A or B
2) I think that Thailand is a beautiful country. A or B

- A)** Look (an action) = to use your eyes to see something.
B) Look (a state) = to appear a specific way to people.

- 3) I don't think he is enjoying himself. He looks bored. A or B
4) She likes that man. She is looking at him. A or B

- A)** Smell (an action) = to sense something using your nose.
B) Smell (a state) = to have a specific smell.

- 5) The man over there is smelling some flowers. Maybe he'll give them to his wife. A or B
6) These roses smell great. A or B

- A)** Be (an action) = to act a specific way for a short time.
B) Be (a state) = to exist a specific way all the time.

- 7) He is stupid. A or B
8) He is being stupid. A or B

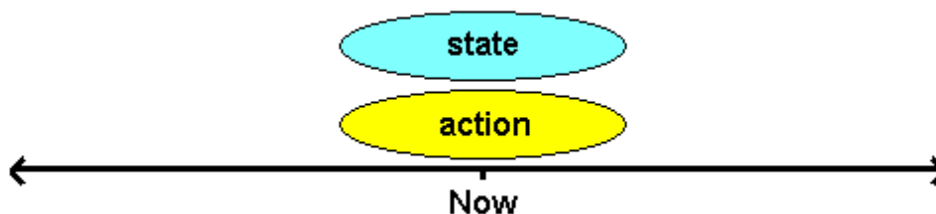
- A)** Have (an action) = to do an activity or experience something for a short time e.g. a party.
B) Have (a state) = to own or possess something.

- 9) I'm having dinner. A or B
10) I have a blue car. A or B

- A)** Taste (an action) = to put a little bit of food in your mouth to know its flavour.
B) Taste (a state) = to have a specific flavour.

- 11) This food tastes great! A or B
12) The chef over there is tasting his food to be sure it's delicious. A or B

Talking about now



- Fill the gaps using the verb in parentheses and the correct tense (present simple / present continuous).
- Note that questions 9 to 14 require the negative structure.

1. James _____ (like) pizza. That's why he's eating it now with a smile on his face.
2. Jane _____ (walk) too slowly. She's going to be late for work.
3. Sam can't talk on the phone right now because he _____ (drive).
4. The new movie at the cinema _____ (look) good. Perhaps we should watch it.
5. That man _____ (look) at that picture. I wonder if he likes it.
6. I like Harry Potter. I _____ (think) it's pretty good.
7. We have a problem but don't worry I _____ (think) of a solution.
8. In my opinion, ice-cream _____ (taste) delicious. That's why I eat it every day.
9. The joke you just told me wasn't funny. That is why I _____ (not laugh).
10. I _____ (not understand) science. It's too difficult.
11. I'm single. I _____ (not have) a girlfriend.
12. You can't use this elevator at the moment. It _____ (not work).
13. I'm surprised that she is a model. She _____ (not look like) one.
14. I'm awake now. I _____ (not sleep).