**METU NCC Fall 2021**

**SFL**

**GHO 3 (Stative & Active Verbs)**

**ELEMENTARY GROUP**

**(Instructor’s Copy)**

**STATIVE VS ACTIVE VERBS**

**There are two types of verbs in English: action verbs and state/stative verbs.**

**Action verbs** (also called dynamic verbs) express activities, processes, momentary actions or physical conditions, such as dance, visit, eat and read. These verbs can be used both in simple and continuous forms.

Jim dances really well. Who **was** he **dancing** with?  
I just ate a small sandwich. I’m eating fried chicken.  
I have already read this book. I**'ve been reading** this book for weeks.

**State verbs** express states or conditions. They include verbs of perception, cognition, the senses, emotion and state of being, such as see, know, love and be. There is no action in the meaning.

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| **Common state verbs** | | | | |
| appear believe belong consider consist contain | cost doubt exist fit hate hear | have know like love matter mean | need owe own prefer remember resemble | seem suppose suspect understand want wish |

State verbs are not normally used in continuous forms:

~~I am needing a new phone.~~ I **need** a new phone.  
~~Who is this bag belonging to?~~ Who **does** this bag **belong** to?  
~~They are seeming tired.~~ They **seem** tired.

**Some state verbs have more than one meaning, such as “have” and “think”. If the meaning refers to an action, we can use the continuous form.**

I was **having** a shower when the phone rang.   
Jones **is looking for** his eyeglasses.  
You'**re seeing** the doctor tomorrow, aren’t you?

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| **Stative meaning** | **Active meaning** |
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| **Do** you **have** a car / a brother? (own) | They **are having** dinner at the moment. (eating)  She **was having** a good time at the party. (enjoying herself) |
| That soup **smells** good. (has a good smell) | He **is smelling** the soup. (sniffing at) |
| This milk **tastes** sour. (has a sour taste) | I **was** just **tasting** the food. (testing) |
| You **look** great! (seem/your appearance) | He **was looking** out the window when I saw him. (directing his eyes towards) |
| What **do** you **see**? (notice with eyes) | I**'m seeing** my dentist this afternoon. (visiting) |
| This melon **weighed** 2 kg. (its weight is 2 kg) | He **was weighing** the melon. (measuring its weight) |
| I **expect** that you are tired. (assume) | **Are** you **expecting** visitors this evening? (waiting for them to arrive) |
| I **feel** that you are wrong. (think) | How **are** you **feeling**? (asking about physical state) |
| He **thought** that the movie was silly. (his opinion) | He **is thinking** of quitting his job and finding a better one. (using his mind, planning) |

**Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs.**

1. A- You **look** (look) very tired today, Brian.

B- I really am tired. These days, I **am looking** (look) after my older sister’s three-year-old kid, and it’s a hard job.

1. What about your younger sister, Sally? I’ve heard that she is pregnant. Is that right?
2. Oh, yes. She **is expecting** (expect) her first child. She **is also thinking** (think/also) of starting her own company.
3. Is that so? I **think** (think) it’s a great idea. I **know** (know) she is a very talented and smart businessperson.
4. A- Sam, look at this painting and tell me your opinion.
5. Hmm, I **see** (see) some colors, some geometric shapes and maybe the face of a woman. Is that a woman? **Am** I **looking** (look) at a woman’s face? I’m sorry, I **don’t understand** (understand) anything. I **don’t know** (know) much about modern art.
6. Last week, I **saw** (see) a very old lady smelling roses in our front garden. She said “These roses are an exquisite species. They **smell** (smell) wonderful, too. You should join a competition.” I **think** (think) she was right. Now I **am thinking** (think) of joining 5th International Rose Competition in Monaco!
7. A- I **am having** (have) trouble fixing this gadget. Could you help me?

B- Sure. I **need** (need) to open it first to see what the problem is. **Do** you **have** (have) a screwdriver?

**HOMEWORK**

**Do the following online exercises:**

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/stative-verbs-exercise.html>

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en/English_as_a_Second_Language_(ESL)/Stative_verbs/Stative_and_Dynamic_Verbs_bi1716294px>

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en/English_as_a_Second_Language_(ESL)/Stative_verbs/Stative_Verbs_gu2003452xx>