Stative Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Like</th>
<th>Know</th>
<th>Belong</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Realise</td>
<td>Fit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hate</td>
<td>Suppose</td>
<td>Contain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Want</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Consist</td>
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<td>Need</td>
<td>Understand</td>
<td>Seem</td>
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<td>Prefer</td>
<td>Believe</td>
<td>Depend</td>
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<td>Agree</td>
<td>Remember</td>
<td>Matter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mind</td>
<td>Recognise</td>
<td>See</td>
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<tr>
<td>Own</td>
<td>Appear</td>
<td>Look (=seem)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sound</td>
<td>Taste</td>
<td>Smell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hear</td>
<td>Astonish</td>
<td>Deny</td>
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<td>Disagree</td>
<td>Please</td>
<td>Impress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfy</td>
<td>Promise</td>
<td>Surprise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doubt</td>
<td>Think (=have an opinion)</td>
<td>Feel (=have an opinion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wish</td>
<td>Imagine</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislike</td>
<td>Be</td>
<td>Have</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deserve</td>
<td>Involve</td>
<td>Include</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack</td>
<td>Measure (=have length etc)</td>
<td>Possess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owe</td>
<td>Weight (=have weight)</td>
<td></td>
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A verb which isn’t stative is called a dynamic verb, and is usually an action.

Some verbs can be both stative and dynamic:

Be
be is usually a stative verb, but when it is used in the continuous it means ‘behaving’ or ‘acting’
- you are stupid = it’s part of your personality
- you are being stupid = only now, not usually

Think
- think (stative) = have an opinion
  I think that coffee is great
- think (dynamic) = consider, have in my head
  what are you thinking about? I’m thinking about my next holiday

Have
- have (stative) = own
  I have a car
- have (dynamic) = part of an expression
  I’m having a party / a picnic / a bath / a good time / a break

See
- see (stative) = see with your eyes / understand
  I see what you mean
- see (dynamic) = meet / have a relationship with
  I’ve been seeing my boyfriend for three years
  I’m seeing Robert tomorrow

Taste
- taste (stative) = has a certain taste
  This soup tastes great
- taste (dynamic) = the action of tasting
  The coffee tastes really bitter

(‘taste’ is the same as other similar verbs such as ‘smell’)
Stative verbs worksheet - Exercises 1

A.-Put the verb into the correct form. Use either the present simple or the present continuous.

1. Please don't make so much noise. I __________________ (study).
2. How many languages __________________ (Tom speak).
3. I __________________ (not/belong) to a political party.
4. Hurry! The bus __________________ (come). I __________________ (not/want) to miss it.
5. The River Nile __________________ (flow) into the Mediterranean.
6. The river __________________ (flow) very fast today — much faster than usual.
7. __________________ (it/ever/snow) in India?
8. We usually __________________ (grow) vegetables in our garden, but this year we __________________ (not/grow) any.
9. A: Can you drive?
   B: No, but I __________________ (learn). My father __________________ (teach) me.
10. You can borrow my umbrella. I __________________ (not/need) it at the moment.
11. (at a party) I usually __________________ (enjoy) parties but I __________________ (not/enjoy) this one very much.
12. George says he's 80- years old but I __________________ (not/believe) him.
13. Ron is in London at the moment. He __________________ (stay) at the Hilton Hotel. He usually __________________ (stay) at the Hilton Hotel when he's in London.
14. My parents __________________ (live) in Bristol. They were born there and have never lived anywhere else. Where __________________ (your/parents/live)?
15. She __________________ (stay) with her sister at the moment, until she finds somewhere to live.
16. A: What __________________ (your father/do)?
   B: He's a teacher, but he __________________ (not/work) at the moment.
17. What time __________________ (the banks/close) in Britain?
18. I don't understand the word 'aint'. What __________________ (it/mean)?
19. He is still ill but he __________________ (get/better) slowly.
20. The economic situation is already bad and it __________________ (get/worse).

b.-GRAMMAR: Stative Verbs Exercise

Circle the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

(a) Right now they (think, are thinking) about buying a new car.
(b) Pete (has been knowing, has known) Jane for many years.
(c) She told me that she (had always loved, had always been loving) the theatre.
(d) It (is depending, depends) on what the weather (is being, is) like on the weekend.
(e) Pierre (has owned, has been owning) that car for over ten years.
(f) Mary (saw, was seeing) Freddie for the first time in a club in Greenwich Village.
(g) Gerry (was tasting, tasted) the wine when suddenly the fire alarm went off in the restaurant. He spilled wine all over his shirt.
(h) The roses (smelled, were smelling) lovely in your garden last summer.
(i) Shirley (is having, has) a difficult time right now.
(j) It (looks, is looking) as if it might rain.
(k) I (am thinking, think) that I should look for a new job.
(l) The thief looked into his rear-view mirror and (was realizing, realized) that he (was being, was) followed by a police car.

C. Put the verbs in brackets in their correct form.
1. He (think) _______________ that we are studying now.
2. These flowers (smell) _______________ terrific.
3. Henry (understand) _______________ Italian well.
4. this milk (taste) _______________ funny. I won’t drink it.
5. Diana (want) _______________ to come over now. Is that all right?
6. There's a spider in the corner. I (hate) _______________ them.
7. I (hear) _______________ you, but I can’t understand what you are saying.
8. Please give me that book. It (belong) _______________ to me.
9. Moshe (believe) _______________ you, but I know that you are lying.
10. I (think) _______________ that we will get a discount because Talia (know) _______________ the manager.

D. Put the verbs in brackets in their correct form.

1. Although Tom is very ill, he (know) _______________ what (happen) _______________ around him.
2. Of course I (understand) _______________ you, I (listen) _______________, aren’t I?
3. Why don’t you comb your hair? It (look) _______________ awful.
4. I (tell) _______________ the truth. Why (you/not believe) _______________ me?
5. I (enjoy) _______________ myself a lot at the moment. I (like) _______________ Eilat.
6. Why are you so angry? You (look) _______________ awful when you (be) _______________ angry.
7. Can we go somewhere else? I (hate) _______________ it here.
8. I (wait) _______________ for David. We (want) _______________ to go swimming.
9. The girl you talked about (sit) _______________ over there. She (seem) _______________ nice.