

Dynamic Verbs

Dynamic verbs describe activities, events and actions that can begin and finish. Dynamic verbs can be used in continuous tenses.

The dynamic Verbs are divided into:

- activity verbs
- process verbs
- transitional events verbs
- momentary verbs

Activity Verbs

are verbs that can be used in either continuous or simple tense without any change in meaning

For example: *They will be studying this afternoon.* Vs. *They will play this afternoon.*

(There is no change in meaning.)

Here is a list some activity verbs:

abandon ask beg call drink	eat help learn listen look at	play rain read say slice	throw whisper work write
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Process Verbs

are verbs that describe a process. These verbs can be used in either continuous or simple tense without any change in meaning.

For example: *With age people slow down.* Vs. *With age people are slowing down.*

Here is a list some activity verbs:

change deteriorate	grow mature	slow down	widen
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Transitional Events Verbs

are verbs that differentiate between the beginning of an event or one complete action. Continuous

forms indicate the beginning of an event while the simple forms describe a repetitive event or one single action.

For example: *She was leaving* (when I came in). Vs. *She left*.

arrive die	fall land	leave	lose
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Momentary Verbs

are verbs that show a short duration or a repetition. They are used in the continuous forms.

For example: *She is kicking the table*. Vs. *He has been nodding in agreement*.

hit jump	kick knock	nod	tap
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State/stative Verbs

Refer to a state or condition that is static or unchanging. These verbs cannot be normally used with continuous tenses. Some of them, however, can be used with continuous tenses with a change in meaning.

Stative Verbs are generally divided into three categories

- relational verbs
- perception verbs
- cognition categories

Relational verbs are verbs that almost never form continuous forms.

We say: *It belongs to me*. not *It is belonging to me*. or *I deserve*. not *I am deserving it*.

Here is a list of relational verbs:

belong to concern consist of contain cost	depend on deserve equal fit have include	involve lack matter need owe own	possess require resemble seem sound
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Perception Verbs are verbs that can form a continuous form but with the change in the regular meaning.



Here is a list and a detailed description of the perception verbs:

smell	taste	see	hear
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smell

She is smelling the roses. - The continuous form expresses a voluntary action.
 They smell wonderful. - The simple form expresses an involuntary action something that just happened and cannot be controlled.

taste

She is tasting the soup. - The continuous form expresses a voluntary action.
 It tastes great. - The simple form expresses an involuntary action something that just happened and cannot be controlled.

see

Example	Form	Meaning
I see.	Simple Present	I understand.
I see him now.	Present Continuous	I see him with my eyes.
I am seeing images.	Present Continuous	Mental illness
I am seeing my dentist tonight.	Present Continuous	Appointment
She has been seeing him for three months.	Present Continuous	Dating

hear

I hear you now.(You don't need to shout.) - The simple form means *I hear you with my ears.* (I'm perceiving).

I am hearing some voices. - The continuous form means a mental illness.

Cognition Verbs are verbs that may not form a continuous tense at all or when they are used in a continuous form their regular meaning changes.

Cognition Verbs that hardly ever form a continuous form:

abhor adore astonish believe desire detest dislike doubt forgive	hate imagine impress intend know like love mean mind	perceive please prefer presuppose realize recall recognize regard satisfy	suppose understand
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Here is a list of cognition verbs that form a continuous form with a change in meaning:

feel	think	wish	have
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feel

Example	Form	Meaning
I am not feeling well.	Continuous	Healthy/unhealthy
I feel good.	Simple	Expresses a mood.
I am feeling the fabric.	Continuous	Touching/voluntary action
It feels soft.	Simple	Involuntary action

think

Example	Form	Meaning
I think it's a good idea.	Simple	Opinion
I am thinking about the exam.	Continuous	Mental Process

wish

Example	Form	Meaning
I wish I had a car.	Simple	A wish
I am wishing for a new car.	Continuous	Present imagination

have

Example	Form	Meaning
I have a car.	Simple	Possession

I am having a good time.	Continuous	Not a possession
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