

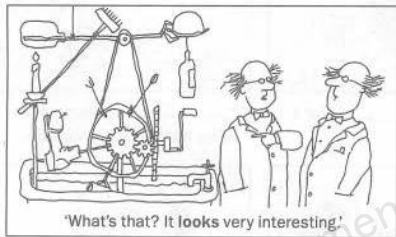
1 There are some verbs which are not normally used in the continuous tenses. These verbs usually refer to:

Thoughts: believe know remember think (= believe) understand want wish
I know Angela but I **don't know** her brother. I **think** English is very difficult.
It was very difficult. I **didn't understand** it. **Do you believe** in fairies?

Likes and dislikes: dislike hate like love prefer
I **like** history but I **don't like** geography. I quite **liked** hockey, but I **preferred** basketball.

Possession: belong to have own possess
They **own** a big house in the country. Oh dear! I **don't have** any money with me.

Senses: look seem smell sound taste
The cake **tasted** very good.



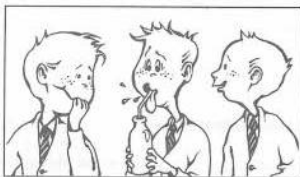
2 Some of these verbs have other meanings. When they are used with these other meanings you can use them in the continuous tenses:

Have does not mean 'possess' in these sentences:
She's **having** a shower. I'm **having** a drink.
They're **having** a party. We're **having** fun.

Think does not mean 'believe':
Be quiet I'm **thinking**. What are you **thinking** about?

You can say either:
You're **looking** very smart today. OR You **look** very smart today.
She **looked** a bit tired. OR She **was looking** a bit tired.

Look at the use of the verb **taste**:



'I'm **tasting** the milk ... Mm it **tastes** bad.'

3 You do not normally use the verbs **see** and **hear** in the present continuous tenses:

Normally you use them with **can**: Please speak a bit louder. I **can't hear** you.
Look over there. I **can see** Peter.

You can use **see** in the continuous tenses when it means **visit**:
Little Red Riding Hood **was seeing** her grandmother.

4 The verb **be** is not normally used in the present continuous:

This is my friend, Michelle. **Is there anyone at home?**

A Say whether you think/believe:

- 1 _____ that some people can tell the future. 5 _____ that our future is in the stars.
 2 _____ that there is life on Mars. 6 _____ that three is a lucky number.
 3 _____ that some people are born lucky. 7 _____ that Friday is an unlucky day.
 4 _____ that thirteen is an unlucky number. 8 _____ that animals have a language.

Say whether you like, dislike, love or hate these things:

- 9 _____ getting up early in the morning. 13 _____ swimming.
 10 _____ singing karaoke. 14 _____ dancing.
 11 _____ cooking. 15 _____ going to the dentist.
 12 _____ rock and roll music. 16 _____ classical music.

There are eight things in each section above. After each section close your books and see how many you can remember.

Work with a partner. See if you can remember the questions and ask a partner. Can you think of any more questions like these?

B Complete the sentences using the right form of: look, smell, sound or taste:

- 1 Jack is only sixteen, but he _____ much older.
 2 I spoke to Mary on the phone. She _____ very happy.
 3 I like your perfume. It _____ wonderful.
 4 These oranges _____ really sweet.

C Complete these dialogues putting the verbs into the present simple or present continuous:

- 1 A Hello what (you/do) are you doing?
 B Hi! (I/read) _____ this book.
 A (That/look) _____ interesting.
 B Yes. (It/be) _____ very good.
 A (You/like) _____ reading?
 B Yes, (I/love) _____ it.
- 2 A Can I borrow your pen?
 B (I/be) _____ sorry. (I/use) _____ it.
 A What about this one? Who (this/belong to) _____ ?
 B (I/think) _____ it's Carol's.
 (I/know) _____ (she/have) _____ one like that. You can ask her.
 (She/work) _____ in the next room.
- 3 A (You/remember) _____ Fred Johnson?
 B Yes, (I/know) _____ him well. Why?
 A (I/write) _____ him a letter.
 B Great! Say 'Hello' to him from me.
- 4 A (That coffee/smell) _____ great!
 B Would you like some or (you/prefer) _____ tea?
 A (You/make) _____ tea as well?
 B I can make some tea if (you/like) _____ .
 A Thank you. (I/think) _____ a cup of tea would be very nice.