# Stative Verbs

## Stative/State Verbs vs Dynamic/Action Verbs

- Stative Verbs are used to talk about
  - emotions
  - thoughts
  - senses
  - belonging
- Stative verbs often describe states that last for a longer time.

- Dynamic Verbs describe
  - things we do
  - things that happen

#### **Examples:**

- The children love ice cream.
- I believe in angels.

#### **Examples:**

- Ted is playing football.
- The sun rose at six this morning.

## Stative/State Verbs vs Dynamic/Action Verbs

- Stative Verbs can not be used in continuous forms.
- Dynamic Verbs can be used in all tenses!

#### **Example:**

• The new baby weighs 3 kg.

#### **NOT:**

The new baby is weighing 3 kg.

### Correct the following sentences!

**WRONG:** Maria is having a piano.

→ Maria has a piano.

**WRONG:** My father is liking cream in his coffee.

→ My father likes cream in his coffee.

WRONG: Ms. Thomas is owning three small dogs and a cat.

Ms. Thomas owns three small dogs and a cat.

**WRONG:** Mr. Thomas is belonging to a football club.

→ Mr. Thomas belongs to a football club.

## some Stative/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
- think
- understand
- want
- wish

## Stative/State Verbs vs Dynamic/Action Verbs

- Some Verbs can be stative and dynamic.
- If the meaning is dynamic you can use them in the continuous form.

Does Maria have a piano?

→ "have" = besitzen (own)

They are having lunch with their mother today.

- , have" = hier: essen (eat)
- → auch "having a shower", etc.

Bob **is** crazy.

- $\rightarrow$  "be" = sein
- → es gehört zu seiner Persönlichkeit

Bob is being crazy.

- ,be" = verhalten (behave)
- er verhält sich nur im Moment verrückt

I **think** that coffee is great.

- $\rightarrow$  "think" = denken
- → beschreibt eine Meinung

What are you thinking about?

→ "think" = nachdenken

Lola **feels** that we were rude.

How has your father been feeling?

→ "feel" → Frage nach der Gesundheit

The new baby weighs 3 kg.

 $\rightarrow$  "weigh" = wiegen  $\rightarrow$  das Gewicht ist 3 kg

The woman is weighing the apples.

→ "weigh" = wiegen → das Gewicht messen

Bernard **looks** healthy.

→ "look" beschreibt, wie Bernard aussieht

I was looking out the window at the rain.

I don't hear the music playing.

→ "hear" = hören mit den Ohren → Sinn

Our manager will be hearing our presentation today.

→ "hear" = zuhören (listen to)

What **do** you **see** on the wall?

→ "see" = wahrnehmen mit Augen → Sinn

They are seeing their cousins tomorrow.

That perfume **smells** good.

→ "smell" beschreibt, wie das Parfum riecht

The boy is smelling the flowers.

"smell" = an etw. riechen (sniff at)

This soup **tastes** great.

→ "taste" beschreibt, wie es schmeckt

The chef is tasting the soup.

→ "taste" = etw. probieren