



Stative Verbs — B1 exercises

Printable worksheet · 23 questions · answer key with explanations on the last page
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Name _____ Date _____ Score _____ / 23

A. Multiple choice

10 questions

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- I ____ in Bristol at the moment, but my real home is Leeds.
A) live B) have lived C) lived D) am living
- Water ____ at zero degrees Celsius.
A) is freezing B) has frozen C) freezes D) is frozen
- Which sentence is incorrect?
A) I know the answer. B) I am knowing the answer.
C) I am learning the answer. D) I have known the answer for years.
- He ____ very unhelpful today, which is unlike him.
A) is B) has been being C) is being D) was
- This soup ____ far too much salt.
A) is containing B) contains C) is contained D) has containing
- What ____ about the new proposal?
A) are you thinking B) are you think C) do you think D) have you thinking
- She ____ dinner with her parents this evening.
A) has B) is having C) is haveing D) has had
- I ____ this restaurant to the one on the corner.
A) am preferring B) am prefer C) have preferring D) prefer
- The kettle ____ — could you switch it off?
A) is boiling B) boils C) has boiled D) boil
- My sister ____ three languages fluently.
A) is speaking B) is spoken C) has speaking D) speaks

B. Fill in the blank

8 questions

Write the missing word or words in the gap.

- I _____ staying with friends until my flat is ready.
- The Earth _____ around the Sun once a year.
- She _____ the answer but she will not tell us.

4. You _____ being very patient with him today.
5. This bottle _____ two litres of water.
6. What _____ you cooking? It smells wonderful.
7. He _____ to disagree with almost everything I say.
8. My parents _____ a small cottage in Wales.

C. Sentence building

5 questions

Put the words in the correct order and write the sentence on the line.

1. I / week. / am / home / from / this / working

Describe a temporary working arrangement.

2. every / opens / at / nine / The / shop / morning.

State a permanent daily routine.

3. the / village. / in / She / knows / everyone

Use a stative verb that never takes -ing.

4. are / You / unusually / quiet / being / today.

Comment on temporary behaviour.

5. belongs / my / to / This / colleague. / bag

State ownership with a stative verb.

Answer key

Every answer carries the reason behind it. Read the reason for the questions you got right as well — that is where you find out whether you were right for the right reason.

A. Multiple choice

1. **D) am living** — The continuous marks the arrangement as temporary, which is exactly what at the moment signals.
2. **C) freezes** — A permanent scientific fact takes the present simple.
3. **B) I am knowing the answer.** — Know is a stative verb and does not take the continuous in any standard variety of English.
4. **C) is being** — Is being describes temporary behaviour rather than permanent character.
5. **B) contains** — Contain is stative: it describes what something is, not what it does.
6. **C) do you think** — Think meaning 'have an opinion' is stative. The continuous would ask what is passing through your mind right now.
7. **B) is having** — Have meaning 'eat' is an action, so it takes the continuous freely — unlike have meaning 'own'.
8. **D) prefer** — Prefer is a stative verb of opinion and stays in the simple form.
9. **A) is boiling** — An action happening at this moment takes the present continuous.
10. **D) speaks** — A permanent ability is a state, so the present simple is correct.

B. Fill in the blank

1. **am** — A temporary arrangement takes the present continuous: am plus the -ing form.
2. **travels** — A permanent fact of nature takes the present simple.
3. **knows** — Know is stative and never appears in the continuous.
4. **are** — Are being describes temporary behaviour rather than a fixed character trait.
5. **holds** — A property of the object is a state, so the simple form is correct.
6. **are** — An action in progress right now takes the present continuous.
7. **seems** — Seem is a stative verb of appearance and stays simple.
8. **own** — Own describes possession, which is a state, not an activity.

C. Sentence building

1. **I am working from home this week.**
2. **The shop opens at nine every morning.**
3. **She knows everyone in the village.**
4. **You are being unusually quiet today.**
5. **This bag belongs to my colleague.**