

## 471 progressive (2): non-progressive verbs

### 1 verbs not used in progressive ('continuous') forms

Some verbs are never or hardly ever used in progressive forms.

*I like this music.* (NOT *I'm liking this music.*)

*I rang her up because I needed to talk.* (NOT ... *because I was needing to talk.*)

Some other verbs are not used in progressive forms when they have certain meanings. Compare:

*I'm seeing the doctor at ten o'clock.*

*I see what you mean.* (NOT *I'm seeing what you mean.*)

Many of these non-progressive verbs refer to states rather than actions. Some refer to mental states (e.g. *know, think, believe*); some others refer to the use of the senses (e.g. *smell, taste*).

Modal verbs (e.g. *can, must*) have no progressive forms. See 353.

### 2 common non-progressive verbs

Here is a list of some common verbs which are not often used in progressive forms (or which are not used in progressive forms with certain meanings).

#### mental and emotional states

<i>believe</i>	<i>(dis)like</i>	<i>see</i> (= understand)
<i>doubt</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>suppose</i>
<i>feel</i> (= have an opinion)	<i>prefer</i>	<i>think</i> (= have an opinion)
<i>hate</i>	<i>realise</i>	<i>understand</i>
<i>imagine</i>	<i>recognise</i>	<i>want</i>
<i>know</i>	<i>remember</i>	<i>wish</i>

#### use of the senses

<i>feel</i>	<i>see</i>	<i>sound</i>
<i>hear</i>	<i>smell</i>	<i>taste</i>

#### communicating and causing reactions

<i>agree</i>	<i>impress</i>	<i>promise</i>
<i>appear</i>	<i>look</i> (= seem)	<i>satisfy</i>
<i>astonish</i>	<i>mean</i>	<i>seem</i>
<i>deny</i>	<i>please</i>	<i>surprise</i>
<i>disagree</i>		

#### other

<i>be</i>	<i>deserve</i>	<i>measure</i> (= have length etc)
<i>belong</i>	<i>fit</i>	<i>need</i>
<i>concern</i>	<i>include</i>	<i>owe</i>
<i>consist</i>	<i>involve</i>	<i>own</i>
<i>contain</i>	<i>lack</i>	<i>possess</i>
<i>depend</i>	<i>matter</i>	<i>weigh</i> (= have weight)

More details of the use of some of these verbs are given in other entries in the book. See the Index for references. ►