****Trouble Spots: *Aspect***

List of some common stative verbs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | agree |
|  | appear |
|  | astonish |
|  | be |
|  | believe |
|  | belong |
|  | concern |
|  | consist |
|  | contain |
|  | deny |
|  | depend |
|  | deserve |
|  | disagree |
|  | dislike |
|  | doubt |
|  | feel (=have an opinion) |
|  | fit |
|  | hate |
|  | have |
|  | hear |
|  | imagine |
|  | impress |
|  | include |
|  | involve |
|  | know |
|  | lack |
|  | like |
|  | look (=seem) |
|  | love |
|  | matter |
|  | mean |
|  | measure (=have a length) |
|  | mind |
|  | need |
|  | owe |
|  | own |
|  | please |
|  | possess |
|  | prefer |
|  | promise |
|  | realise |
|  | recognise |
|  | remember |
|  | satisfy |
|  | see (=understand) |
|  | seem |
|  | smell (=have a smell) |
|  | sound |
|  | suppose |
|  | surprise |
|  | taste |
|  | think (=have an opinion) |
|  | understand |
|  | want |
|  | weigh (=have weight) |
|  | wish |

**Please be aware of some differences in meaning:**

She is smelling the flowers. (=taking in the smell of sth.)

These flowers smell great. (= have a smell)

What do you think about it? (=have an opinion)

What are you thinking about? (= mental activity)

I see what you mean. (=understand)

I'm seeing the boss at ten. (=have an appointment with)

We are tasting some old wines. (=drinking them)

But this one tastes awful. (=have an awful taste)

(cf. Swan, Michael: *Practical English Usage*, OUP 32005, p. 457f.)