

## 02 EMOTIONS

*be, look, seem, etc.*

A few verbs, called **linking verbs**, can be followed by an adjective on its own. These verbs are: *be, feel, look, seem, sound, taste and smell*.

You *sound depressed*. What's up?

Mmm. That *smells delicious*. What is it?

These verbs are also followed by **like + noun**, which means *the same as, or similar to*.

She *looks like a model*!

It *tastes a bit like chicken*.

These verbs can also be followed by **as if or like + clause**. Using *like* here is very common, but some people say it is wrong. In exams and writing it may be better to use *as if*.

You *look like you're in a very good mood*. How come?

I feel guilty. I *feel as if it's my fault*.

All the examples are in the simple tense. These verbs are sometimes also used in continuous tenses. There is no difference in meaning.

You're looking well! = You look well.

I'm feeling a bit ill. = I feel a bit ill.

### Exercise 1

Correct the sentences which are incorrect.

- It's quite frustrating in the class. It sometimes seems as if I'm the only person who wants to study and learn.
- He was in shock. Honestly, he looked as he'd seen a ghost!
- She sounded like quite upset the last time I spoke to her.
- I had to tell him the bad news. I felt as if terrible afterwards.
- I've only met him once, but he really annoyed me with the way he spoke about women. He seemed like an idiot to me.
- Don't eat that. It tastes like disgusting.
- She said the flight would cost €50 and the hotel €30 a night, which sounds like a really good deal.
- Do you think this dress makes me look like fat?

### Glossary

**tapping the table:** if you tap the table or the door, you hit it lightly and quickly

**drives me mad:** if something drives you mad or crazy, it really annoys you

**halfway through:** if something happens halfway through a film or a meeting or a class, it happens in the middle

### -ed / -ing adjectives

Here are some more adjectives with two forms.

He wasn't very *amused*. / It's an *amusing* story.

I was *frightened*. / It was a *frightening* story.

I'm quite *annoyed* about it. / It's *annoying*.

I'm *confused*. / It's *confusing*.

I feel quite *relaxed*. / I had a *relaxing* holiday.

He was very *disappointed*. / It was *disappointing*.

I was *shocked* by the news. / It's *shocking*.

I was a bit *embarrassed*. / My parents can be *embarrassing*.

I was *exhausted*. / I've had an *exhausting* week.

I'm *excited* about it. / It should be an *exciting* game.

I felt a bit *frustrated*. / It's *frustrating* learning to windsurf.

He's feeling *depressed*. / The news is *depressing*!

Here are some pairs of adjectives that do not use both -ed / -ing.

scared / scary                      upset / upsetting

stressed / stressful                calm / calming

### Exercise 1

Complete the pairs of sentences with the adjectives in the box.

annoyed / annoying	confused / confusing
frustrated / frustrating	scared / scary
bored / boring	depressed / depressing
surprised / surprising	worried / worrying

1a Can you explain it again? I'm still a bit .....

1b The instructions for this camera are really .....

2a He's got a really ..... habit of tapping the table with his finger all the time.

2b I'm a bit ..... that he hasn't phoned me! He promised he'd ring me tonight.

3a This weather is really .....! It's so wet.

3b He's been ..... for a while, but he refuses to go and see someone about it.

4a That film was so ..... I jumped out of my seat about five times!

4b I can't look down. I'm ..... of heights!

5a I'm ..... we'll miss our flight.

5b The news of all these terrorist attacks is a bit .....

6a I was really ..... when I arrived here. I didn't expect to see people living on the streets.

6b I thought the ending was really ..... I mean, I didn't expect him to really be a ghost!

7a I get really ..... when I can't say what I want to say. It drives me mad!

7b It's quite ..... working there, because sometimes you know you could a better job, but you just don't have time!

8a It was so ..... that I fell asleep halfway through the film, so I didn't see the end.

8b I'm .....! Can't we do something else?

**The present continuous**

Use the present continuous to talk about temporary, unfinished actions.

*This weather's depressing! It's raining again.*

Can I call you back later? *We're having dinner.*

I feel sorry for him. *He's losing his hair.* He's only 21!

To emphasise that something is temporary, use expressions such as *at the moment, currently, this week and this month.*

*I'm reading a great book at the moment.* I'll lend you it when I've finished it.

Use the present continuous to talk about things in the future that are already organised or arranged with other people.

*I'm going out* for dinner with a client on Friday.

*They're moving* to Boston next month.

**Present simple and present continuous**

Use the present simple to talk about habits or more permanent things.

*I usually go swimming* every day.

*I live* in Budapest.

We explain how often using adverbs such as *usually, often, sometimes, hardly ever, never.*

*I usually play* football on Wednesdays.

Some verbs are normally used in simple tenses even when the situation is temporary.

You *sound* exhausted. Were you out late last night?

I still *owe* my brother €100. He's a bit fed up about it.

I *love* this soup! It *tastes* fantastic. How did you make it?

A: They're doing building work outside our office. The noise is driving me mad. I *hate* it!

B: I know what you mean! They're doing the same in front of my house. It's really annoying.

**Other verbs like this are:**

agree	believe	belong	depend	disagree	doubt
forget	like	matter	mean	mind	need
own	prefer	realise	seem	suppose	want

Some other verbs are like this depending on the meaning.

*I see* you're interested in politics. You're reading the biography of Mao. (see = notice)

*He's seeing* someone at the moment, so he's happy. (see = have a girl / boyfriend)

*I have* a VW at the moment, but I'm thinking of buying a BMW. (have = own / possess)

*They're having* a meeting about it now. (have = do)

*It's* really hot. Open a window. (verb + adjective)

Sorry, *I'm* just *being* silly. (temporary / unusual behaviour)

Other verbs like this are: **feel, think, taste**

**Exercise 1**

Choose the correct form.

- A: What are the hours like where you work?  
B: OK. *I'm usually just working* / *I usually just work* nine to five, but this month *I'm doing* / *I do* a lot of overtime because we've got a really tight deadline to meet, so *I'm working* / *I work* from nine in the morning till nine at night or even ten most days.
- A: Where do you work?  
B: Well, *I'm normally working* / *I normally work* in the centre of town, but this week *I'm working* / *I work* from home, because *they do up* / *they are doing up* our office.
- A: What does your job involve exactly?  
B: Just general office work, *I'm answering* / *I answer* the phone and *making* / *make* appointments for my boss, that kind of thing, but *we're holding* / *we hold* a conference in a couple of months, so at the moment *I'm sorting out* / *I sort out* lots of things for that as well.

**Exercise 2**

Find the five mistakes and correct them.

- Can you phone back? I have dinner.
- Ignore him. He's just being silly.
- Is she seeing anyone at the moment?
- I'm annoyed with him. He's still owing me money.
- I don't need any help thanks. I just look.
- I go to the shops. Do you want anything?
- I'm preferring coffee, if you don't mind.
- I love cycling. I belong to a local cycling club.

**Exercise 3**

Complete these sentences by putting the words in brackets into the correct place.

- I have lots of free time, but I'm studying really hard because I have exams. (generally, this month)
- What are you doing? Are you studying? (these days, still)
- I'm finding it quite difficult at home, because my husband does the cooking, but he's away for three weeks on business. (at the moment, normally)
- I'm sorry, we're experiencing problems with the system. Can you call back in a half an hour? (currently)
- They're doing building work outside our office. Honestly, it's driving me mad. (at the moment)
- I go to my dance class on Tuesdays, but I'm working so I'm going to miss it. (usually, this week).

**Glossary**

**tight deadline to meet:** if you have a tight deadline to meet, you have to finish work in a very short time

**do up:** if you do up a place, especially your house, you paint it and repair things to make it nice

**experiencing problems:** experiencing problems is a formal way to say you are having problems