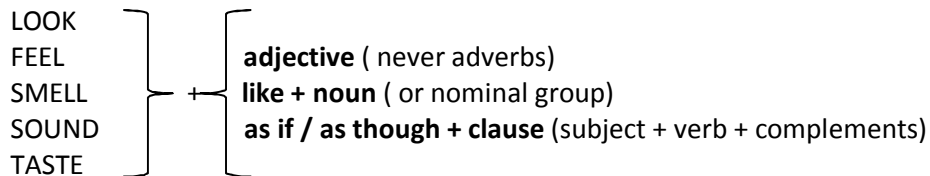


VERBS OF THE SENSES



Ex: He **looks** angry.

It **feels** like silk.

It **smells** as if / though somebody was cooking curry.



Smell / taste of :

This soup tastes of onion. (it has the taste of onion because there must be onion in it)

Smell / taste like:

This soup tastes like onion. (it has a similar taste, but there is no onion in it)

The 5 basic verbs of the senses, **HEAR, SEE, SMELL, FEEL, TASTE** are stative verbs (non-action), and are **not normally used in the continuous form**. **Instead** of using the present continuous to refer to something happening now, it's better to use **CAN**.

Ex: I'm sorry, I **can't hear** you.



If they are used in the **continuous form**, they imply that somebody is performing an **activity**:

Ex: Why **are you smelling** those flowers?

I'm tasting the soup to see if it needs salt.



HEAR and **SEE** can be used in the **continuous form** but with a **different meaning**.

Ex: **I'm seeing** my friends tonight. (visiting)

I've been hearing good reviews about his acting. (getting information)

HEAR , SEE, WATCH, NOTICE, LISTEN, FEEL can be followed by **an OBJECT + INFINITIVE or GERUND** but there is a difference in the action.

+ **OBJECT + INFINITIVE (without to)** = it means you perceived **the whole action** (saw, heard, watched...)

Ex: I **heard the man play** the violin.

+ **OBJECT + GERUND** = it means you perceived the **action in progress** or it was **a repeated action**

Ex: I **heard the man playing** the violin.

SEEM

+ **adjective**

Ex: You **seem very optimistic** about the new situation.

+ **infinitive (with TO) simple, perfect or continuous**

Ex: You **seem to be very optimistic** about the new situation.

+ **like + noun**

Ex: He **seems like a foreigner**.

+ **as if / though + clause**

Ex: They **seem as / though they were the real champions**.



Difference between SEEM and LOOK :

Ex: He **seems** tired. (because of the way he behaves or sounds...)

He **looks** tired . (because of his appearance)

SEEM is never used in the continuous form.