

PRESENT SIMPLE VS PRESENT CONTINUOUS

© talkmor.com

PDF 2 of 3 | For Students | The No -ing Verbs

Some verbs cannot use -ing. They are in your head or heart, not your hands.

Action verbs = You can see it: eat, work, run, teach, wear, play

I am eating. ■ You can see me eat.

Stative / Non-action verbs = You cannot see it. In head/heart:

know, understand, believe, remember, forget, like, love, hate, want, need, prefer, mean, seem, have (when = own), be, own, belong

- I am knowing the answer. (Wrong - you cannot see 'know')
- I know the answer.
- She is wanting a new phone. (Wrong)
- She wants a new phone.
- I am loving this song. (Most of the time wrong at B1)
- I love this song.

Very important: Some verbs have 2 meanings!

I have a car. (own = stative, no -ing)

I am having lunch. (eating = action, YES -ing)



A. Can You See It? Action or Stative?

Write A (**Action** - can use -ing)
or S (**Stative** - NO -ing).

1. ____ like
2. ____ wear
3. ____ know
4. ____ work
5. ____ want
6. ____ need
7. ____ play
8. ____ understand
9. ____ have (a car)
10. ____ have (lunch)

Permission granted to reproduce for classroom use. © talkmor.com 2026

B. Fix The Mistake - Circle and Correct

Many students make this mistake. Find it and write the correct sentence.

1. I am understanding the lesson now.

Correction: _____

2. She is liking her new job.

Correction: _____

3. I am needing more time.

Correction: _____

4. What are you thinking about my idea? (think = opinion, is this ok?)

Correction / Is it correct? _____

5. I am having two brothers. (have = own family?)

Correction: _____

C. What Do You...? - Use Stative Verbs

Ask and answer. Use stative verbs. NO -ing.

1. What do you want to learn this year? I want to _____

2. What kind of music do you like? I like _____

3. Do you know how to cook? I know how to _____ / I don't know how to _____

4. What do you need right now? I need _____

Permission granted to reproduce for classroom use. © talkmor.com 2026

Answer Key

PDF 2 - The Important One

A. 1 S, 2 A, 3 S, 4 A, 5 S, 6 S, 7 A, 8 S, 9 S (own), 10 A (have = eat).

B.
1. I understand the lesson now.
2. She likes her new job.
3. I need more time.
4. What do you think about my idea? is OK - think about = opinion, stative, so simple. 'What are you thinking about?' = what is in your head right now, also possible but B1: teach 'What do you think?'
5. I have two brothers.

Teach: have = own vs have = eat/drink/do.
Have a car/brothers = no -ing. Have lunch/a shower = action, YES -ing.
McDonald's slogan 'I'm lovin it' - marketing, not grammar. In B1 test, it's wrong.

Permission granted to reproduce for classroom use. © talkmor.com 2026