

Stative verbs

Some verbs are not usually used in the continuous form, even when we are talking about temporary situations or states. These are called stative verbs.

So, we say *I'm sorry, I don't understand* rather than *I'm not understanding*.

I) Stative verbs are often verbs connected with thinking and opinions ...

She doesn't know what to do **NOT** She isn't knowing what to do
Do you agree with me?
I don't recognize it, do you?

Other verbs in this group include:
believe, doubt, guess, imagine, mean, remember, think

II) Other stative verbs are connected with feelings and emotions

I like this song. Who sings it? **NOT** I'm liking this song
What do you want to do now?
I hate my new boss!

Other stative verbs in this group include:
dislike, love, prefer, want, wish

NOTE: although 'enjoy' is a verb of emotion, it is used in the continuous tense
I'm enjoying the party.

III) 'see', 'hear', 'taste', 'smell', 'feel' are verbs that describe senses. These verbs aren't usually used in continuous forms. They are often used with 'can'.

It smells of smoke in here. **NOT** It's smelling of smoke in here
I can't see anything. It's too dark.

IV) Stative verbs describe things that are not actions. Look carefully at these 2 sentences.

He smells of fish.
He's smelling the fish.
The second sentence is an action - not a state.
The man wants to know if the fish is OK to eat.

I think we should go to Croatia for our holiday this year.
Sorry, what did you say? I was thinking about my holiday.
The first sentence is an opinion but the second sentence is an action.

Exercise

Complete the sentences with a suitable form of one of the verbs.
Two of the verbs won't be used.

believe, enjoy, mean, not believe, see, taste, think

- Liz isn't [1] her new job very much.
- That's a lie! I [2] you!
- We've missed the last bus. That [3] we'll have to walk.
- The soup [4] a bit too spicy for me.
- What [5] you [5] about today's news?

Vocabulary 1. uninhabited, 2. developed, 3. exotic, 4. efficient, 5. vast, 2. don't believe, 3. means, 4. tastes, 5. do you think

Kedves Olvasó!

Az Új Szó és a British Council együttműködésében hat héten keresztül – a SME napilapban korábban sikeresen megjelentetett - angol nyelvtanfolyamot közlünk 12 leltében. Hetente kétszer – csütörtökön és szombaton – ezen az oldalon érdekes témákat talál, melyek segítségével nemcsak szókincset bővítheti, hanem angol nyelvtani tudását is tökéletesítheti. Minden lelté egy kvíz kérdést is tartalmaz. Ha 2008. május 29-ig a quiz@britishcouncil.sk e-mail címre elküldi mind a 12 helyes választ, átruházható tanfolyamot illetve nyelvtankönyveket és szótárakat nyerhet. A játékot 2008. június 2-án értékeljük ki. A játékszabályokról és a díjakról a www.britishcouncil.sk címen talál további információkat.

Reading Article

Aeroplanes and global warming

by Mike Rayner

*Gimme a ticket for an aeroplane,
Ain't got time to take a fast train.
Lonely days are gone,
I'm a-goin' home,
'Cause my baby just a-wrote me
a letter.*

**Wayne Carson Thompson:
The Letter**

Have you ever looked out of the window of a passenger plane from 30,000 feet at the vast expanses of empty ocean and uninhabited land, and wondered how people can have any major effect on the Earth? I have. But it is now becoming pretty clear that we are causing a great deal of damage to the natural environment. And the planes which rush us in comfort to destinations around the globe, contribute to one of the biggest environmental problems that we face today – global warming.

For those of us lucky enough to have money to spend, and the free time to spend it in, there are a huge number of fascinating places to explore. The cost of air transport has decreased rapidly over the years, and for many people, especially in rich countries, it is now possible to fly around the world for little more than the contents of our weekly pay packets.

Unfortunately, planes produce far more carbon dioxide (CO₂) than any other form of public transport, and CO₂ is now known to be a greenhouse gas, a gas which traps the heat of the sun, causing the temperature of the Earth to rise. Scientists predict that in the near future the climate in Britain will resemble that of the Mediterranean, ironically a popular destination for British holiday-makers flying off to seek the sun. If global warming continues, we may also find that many tourist destinations such as The Maldives have disappeared under water because of rising sea levels.

As usual, people in the developing world are having to deal with problems created mainly by those of us in developed countries. Beatrice Schell, a spokeswoman for the European Federation for Transport and Environment says that, "One person flying in an airplane for one hour is responsible for the same greenhouse gas emissions as a typical Bangladeshi in a whole year." And every year jet aircraft generate almost as much carbon dioxide as the entire African continent produces.

When you are waiting impatiently in a crowded departure lounge for a delayed flight

or trying to find luggage which has gone astray, plane fares may seem unreasonably high, but in reality we are not paying enough for air travel. Under the "polluter pays principle", where users pay for the bad effects they cause, the damage caused by planes is not being paid for. Aircraft fuel is not taxed on international flights and planes, unlike cars, are not inspected for CO₂ emissions. Also, the Kyoto agreement does not cover greenhouse gases produced by planes, leaving governments to decide for themselves who is responsible.

So what can be done to solve the problem? Well, although aircraft engine manufacturers are making more efficient engines and researching alternative fuels such as hydrogen, it will be decades before air travel is not damaging to the environment. Governments don't seem to be taking the problem seriously, so it is up to individual travellers to do what they can to help.

The most obvious way of dealing with the problem is to not travel by plane at all. Environmental groups like Friends of the Earth encourage people to travel by train and plan holidays nearer home. However with prices of flights at an all

time low, and exotic destinations more popular than ever, it is hard to persuade British tourists to choose Blackpool instead of Bangkok, or Skegness over Singapore. Friends of the Earth also advise using teleconferencing for international business meetings, but most businesspeople still prefer to meet face-to-face.

However there is a way of offsetting the carbon dioxide we produce when we travel by plane. A company called Future Forests, whose supporters include Coldplay and Pink Floyd, offers a service which can relieve the guilty consciences of air travellers. The Future Forest website calculates the amount of CO₂ you are responsible for producing on your flight, and for a small fee will plant the number of trees which will absorb this CO₂. Another company, co2.org, offers a similar service, but invests your money in energy saving projects such as providing efficient light bulbs to villagers in Mauritius.

Yesterday I returned to Japan from England, and was happy to pay Future Forests 25 pounds to plant the 3 trees which balance my share of the CO₂ produced by my return flight. Now the only thing making me lose sleep is jet lag.

Vocabulary

5 words/phrases from the text

- vast:** extensive
- uninhabited:** without residents
- developed:** advanced in sophistication
- exotic:** unique and unusual, not local or native
- efficient:** functioning in the best way with the least effort

Vocabulary

Vocabulary gap fill. Now use the 5 words/phrases to fill the gaps in the sentences below:

- The village had been since 1995 when the last family left.
- People living in countries cannot fully understand the problems of the poor.
- Man goes and papayas are fruits in the UK.
- Cycling is an way to travel around the village.
- The desert is a open space that is home to all kinds of strange creatures.

Reading Comprehension

Comprehension: true or false. Decide whether these sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text.

- It is getting more and more expensive to travel by plane.
- Soon the weather in Britain will be similar to Spain.
- Planes on international flights pay extra taxes.
- Scientists are looking for different fuels that are not as harmful.
- Friends of the Earth are telling people not to travel at all.

Quiz Question 1

What is the name of the flag of Britain?



Aeroplanes and global warming – key

Megrendelőlap

Név:

Utcá, házszám: Település: Irányítószám:

Telefonszám: E-mail:

Utánvétellel megrendelekdb angol nyelvű CD-t 49 koronáért.

A postaköltség 40 korona.

Aláírás:

A kitöltött szelvényt küldje el a következő címre: Petít Press, a.s., edičné oddelenie, Lazaretská 12, 814 64 Bratislava, vagy a 02/59 233 339-es faxszámra.

A nyelvtanulás akkor a leghatékonyabb, ha olvassa és hallgatja is a szöveget.



Szeretne megtanulni angolul vagy javítani nyelvtudásán?

Pozsonyi központunkban tanfolyamok széles skáláját kínáljuk felnőttek, gyerekek és fiatalok részére. Válasszon nemzetközi nyelvvizsga- és nyelvi érettségi előkészítő tanfolyamaink, üzleti, pénzügyi és jogi kurzusaink közül.

Bővebb információk a tanfolyamokról, határidőkről a www.britishcouncil.sk honlapon.

British Council, Panská 17, Pozsony, info@britishcouncil.sk