

## Non-Continuous Verbs

Some verbs do not have continuous tenses. These include:

- ◆ **Verbs of the senses:** see, hear, feel, taste, smell. e.g. *This cake tastes delicious.* (NOT: ~~This cake is tasting delicious.~~)
- ◆ **Verbs of perception:** know, remember, forget, recognise, understand, notice, realise, seem, sound, think, etc. e.g. *I don't know his name.*
- ◆ **Verbs which express likes and dislikes:** love, like, hate, dislike, enjoy, etc. e.g. *Shirley loves jazz music.*
- ◆ **Other verbs:** include, matter, need, belong, cost, prefer, mean, own, appear, believe, want, have (=possess), etc. e.g. *That jacket costs a lot of money.* (NOT: ~~That jacket is costing a lot of money.~~)

13

Read the following dialogue between a hotel owner and the receptionist. Put the verbs in brackets into the present simple or the present continuous.



- A: Good morning, Catherine. A special guest 1) ...*is coming*... (come) to our hotel today.
- B: Really! 2) ..... (I/know) who it is?
- A: I 3) ..... (think) you do. He 4) ..... (star) in the TV series, 'Rooftop', at the moment.
- B: It 5) ..... (be) Paul Roberts, isn't it? When 6) ..... (he/come)? I can't wait to meet him in person!
- A: At 3 o'clock this afternoon. But there are a few things you 7) ..... (need) to know. First of all, he 8) ..... (love) flowers. He also 9) ..... (enjoy) having his breakfast in the dining-room, not in his room.
- B: Why 10) ..... (he/stay) at our hotel?
- A: Because he 11) ..... (want) some peace and quiet and he 12) ..... (not/like) to be disturbed by reporters.
- B: I see. Well, let's hope that everything will be okay while he 13) ..... (stay) here.

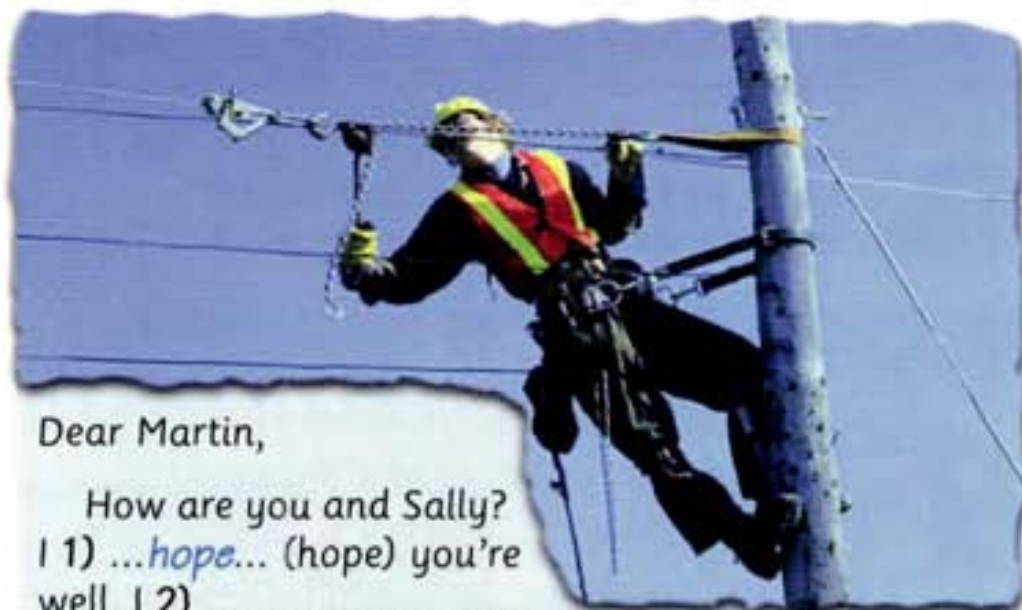
14

Put the verbs in brackets into the present simple or the present continuous.

- 1 Jason ...*is not coming*... (not/come) with us this evening.
- 2 What ..... (this sign/mean)?
- 3 We ..... (usually/meet) at the sports centre every Wednesday afternoon.
- 4 Greg ..... (train) for the next Olympic Games.
- 5 Michael Burns is very rich. He ..... (own) a department store.
- 6 John and Mary ..... (play) chess at the moment.
- 7 Peter ..... (not/usually/have) eggs for breakfast.
- 8 My father ..... (buy) a newspaper every day.
- 9 Mr and Mrs Dean ..... (not/go) to Mexico tomorrow.
- 10 '..... (Pierre/speak) English?' 'No, but he ..... (speak) French.'

15

Put the verbs in brackets into the present simple or the present continuous.



Dear Martin,

How are you and Sally?  
I 1) ...*hope*... (hope) you're well. I 2) ..... (write) to give you some good news. I have got a summer job for the holidays! I 3) ..... (repair) telephone lines for a telephone company.  
I 4) ..... (usually/ride) my bicycle to work because it's only a ten minute ride from home. We 5) ..... (start) work at 8:30. We 6) ..... (finish) at 4:30 on Mondays to Thursdays, but at 2:30 on Fridays, so I 7) ..... (have) long weekends.  
I 8) ..... (work) very hard at the moment. To tell you the truth, I 9) ..... (be) a bit nervous because my boss 10) ..... (leave) for Scotland on business next week, so I'll be on my own. Lizzie says I 11) ..... (worry) about it too much. She's probably right!

Please write with your news. Say hello to Sally for me.

Best wishes,  
Richard