ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Stative vs Active Verbs MCQ Grammar Quiz – Test – Exercise

English Grammar Tests · 18 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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1	**B**	2	**B**	3	**A**	4	**A**	5	**A**	6	**B**	7	**A**	8	**B**	9	**B**	10	**B**
11	**B**	12	**A**	13	**A**	14	**B**	15	**A**	16	**A**	17	**B**	18	**A**				

Explanations

1. Right now, my brother _____ TV in the living room.
✔ **B) is watching**
Right now tells us the action is happening at this moment, so we use the present continuous: **is watching**.

2. Sarah is in her room. She _____ her homework.
✔ **B) is doing**
She is in her room now, so the action is happening at this moment. Use the present continuous: **is doing**.

3. I'm hungry! I _____ to eat lunch at the cafeteria.
✔ **A) want**
Want is a stative verb (it shows a wish, not an action), so we don't use it in the continuous form: **I want**. Not **am wanting**.

4. _____ they _____ the story about the space aliens?
✔ **A) Do / believe**
Believe is a stative verb (it shows an opinion), so we use the present simple: **Do they believe…?** Not **Are they believing**.

5. They worked hard and saved their money and now they _____ their home.
✔ **A) own**
Own is a stative verb (it shows possession), so we use the present simple: **they own**, even with **now**.

6. I was bored, so now I _____ the dictionary!
✔ **B) am reading**
Now shows an action happening at this moment. **Read** is an action verb, so use the present continuous: **am reading**.

7. My sister lives in New York. She _____ New York a lot.
✔ **A) likes**
Like is a stative verb (it shows a feeling), so we use the present simple: **She likes**. Not **is liking**.

8. It's a beautiful day today. It's sunny and the birds _____.
✔ **B) are singing**
The sentence describes what is happening **today**, at this moment. **Sing** is an action, so use the present continuous: **are singing**.

9. (A) What's Tom doing?

(B) He _____ the food you cooked.
✔ **B) is tasting**
Here **taste** is an action (Tom is trying the food), and the question **What's Tom doing?** asks about now. So use the present continuous: **is tasting**.

10. The kids are outside. They _____ in the snow.
✔ **B) are playing**
The kids are outside now, so the action is happening at this moment. Use the present continuous: **are playing**.

11. Thank you for the flowers. I'm _____ them right now.
✔ **B) smelling**
Here **smell** is an action (I am putting my nose to the flowers), and **right now** shows it is happening now. So use **smelling** after **I'm**.

12. (A) Can you remember his name?

(B) No, I _____ his name.
✔ **A) forget**
Forget is a stative verb (it is about the mind, not an action), so we use the present simple: **I forget**. Not **am forgetting**.

13. (A) Do you like the food?

(B) Yes, it _____ wonderful!
✔ **A) tastes**
Here **taste** describes what the food is like, not an action, so it is stative and we use the present simple: **it tastes wonderful**. Not **is tasting**, which is only for a person trying food.

14. It's eight o'clock and I _____ to work. I hope I can arrive on time.
✔ **B) am driving**
It's eight o'clock shows an action happening at this moment. **Drive** is an action verb, so use the present continuous: **am driving**.

15. Most cats don't like to swim. In fact, they _____ the water.
✔ **A) hate**
Hate is a stative verb (it shows a feeling), and this is a general fact about cats. Use the present simple: **they hate**.

16. Did you buy new perfume? It _____ really nice.
✔ **A) smells**
Here **smell** describes what the perfume is like, not an action, so it is stative: **It smells really nice**. Not **is smelling**.

17. Kevin is tired after the long flight. He _____ on the sofa.
✔ **B) is sleeping**
Kevin is on the sofa now, so the action is happening at this moment. Use the present continuous: **is sleeping**.

18. Roberto _____ a large family: three sisters and two brothers.
✓ A) has
When **have** means possession or relationship (a family), it is stative, so use the present simple: **Roberto has**. Not **is having**, which is for actions like **having lunch**.

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