



Grammar Talks 2-09 | Stative Verbs

What looks good? What tastes good?

Two people talk about things they like using stative verbs.

Todd: Hey, Darcy. Let's talk about stative verbs.

Darcy: Okay.

Todd: So I will ask you five questions or questions about stative verbs and you answer them.

Darcy: Sure.

Todd: Okay. First, what smells good?

Darcy: Sweet things smell good.

Todd: Yes, that's true. I think fresh coffee smells good. I love fresh coffee.

Darcy: I hate the smell of _____ .

Todd: Oh, really? It _____ good for you?

Darcy: No, it's so like bitter.

Todd: Oh, really? Oh, wow. I think it smells _____. You don't think it smells good.

Darcy: No. I _____ chocolate smells good.

Todd: Okay. Okay, there we go. Alright. So next, what feels good?

Darcy: A hot bath _____ .

Todd: That's true. A hot bath feels really good. I think a warm sweater on a cold _____ really good. Like right after the sweater comes from the dryer, it feels _____ .

Darcy: Yes, I love that warm feeling you get when it comes out.

Todd: It's so nice. Also, puppies. Puppies _____ nice, right, when you pet puppies?

Darcy: Yeah, I like the _____. They feel really nice.

Todd: They do. They feel really, really nice. Okay. So now, how about taste? What foods taste really good?

Darcy: Um, I think spicy _____ really good.

Todd: Oh, really?

Darcy: Yes, I love... Like Thai food tastes really good because



Quiz

- 1) Who is good at saving money?
 - a) She is.
 - b) He is.
 - c) Neither of them.
- 2) Who wastes a lot of money on food?
 - a) He does.
 - b) She does.
 - c) Neither of them.
- 3) What does she waste money on?
 - a) Eating out
 - b) Clothes
 - c) Gifts
- 4) How does he save money on clothes?
 - a) He asks for gifts
 - b) He looks for sales
 - c) He buys used clothing
- 5) Who talks about money and travelling?
 - a) Just her.
 - b) Just him.
 - c) Both of them

Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| think hot | feel really | feels good | fluffy ones |
| a kick on | fresh coffee | doesn't smell | day feels |
| so good | really nice | food tastes | does taste |

Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What tastes good?
- 2) What sounds fun?
- 3) What looks dangerous?
- 4) What smells good?
- 5) What feels food?

- _____
- () Living on an island sounds fun.
 () Fresh baked bread smells good.
 () A warm cotton sweater on a cold day feels good.
 () Tomato soup smells tastes good.
 () Rock climbing looks dangerous.

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it can clear your sinuses and it just gives you like _____ your tongue.

Todd: That's true. It _____ good. I have a sweet tooth so ice cream tastes really good. I love the taste of ice cream. Also, I love pizza, so pizza tastes good.

Darcy: That's because cheese taste the best.

Todd: That's right.

Darcy: Something nice and melty.

Todd: That's true. How about foods that don't taste good? What food doesn't taste good?

Darcy: Natto definitely does not taste good.

Todd: So natto is a Japanese food that's bitter, right, so it tastes bitter?

Darcy: Yeah.

Todd: That's true. I think... Actually, pineapple doesn't taste good.

Darcy: I think pineapple taste great. I mean, it's nice and sweet, but then the taste kind of burns the back of your mouth eventually.

Todd: A little bit, yeah. I just like it on pizza. Anything on pizza taste good.

Darcy: I love pineapple on pizza. It gives it that sweet flavor.

Todd: True, so true. Okay. So we've done tastes, we've done smells, uh, feel. Okay. Now how about look? So who looks good? Who looks beautiful? What famous person looks gorgeous?

Darcy: I think anyone that's over six feet tall looks gorgeous.

Todd: So everybody in the NBA looks gorgeous.

Darcy: Between 6' and 6'5" looks good.

Todd: Really?! Oh, man. I'm bombed. I'm 5'10". I'm too short.

Darcy: Just a little. I always notice, like my eyes peels to people that are about six feet tall. I'm like, "Oh, they look nice. They look good."

Todd: So tall people look good, they look handsome.

Darcy: Yes, I think so.

Todd: How about celebrities? Any celebrities that looks beautiful, over six feet tall?

Darcy: I don't know how tall they are. They all look tall in the movies.

Todd: Right.

Darcy: Tom Cruise looks handsome but he is not actually that tall.

Todd: No, he's not six feet.

Darcy: He looks taller in the movies.

Todd: Right. That's true. All actors look taller in movies. Okay. So then we have one more and that would be, what sounds fun? So when you think of an activity, something you want to try, what looks fun or sounds fun?

Darcy: I think like a big musical festival sounds fun. Like going out to a dance party sounds really fun.

Grammar

Stative Verbs

Point 1: Stative verbs express feelings and opinions. They are followed by an adjective.

1. The party **sounds** fun.
2. This soup **smells** delicious.
3. This test **sounds** hard.
4. This pasta **tastes** great!
5. She **feels** sad today!

Point 2: Stative verbs use verbs about the five senses: touch, sight, taste, smell, and sound.

1. That **sounds** difficult.
2. This book **looks** interesting.
3. He **feels** better now.
4. This pizza **tastes** terrible.
5. This milk **smells** old.

Point 3: Stative verbs are special because the object is an adjective, not a noun or pronoun, like in transitive verbs.

- (A) **Can you make vegetable curry? (Transitive)**
- (B) No, it looks difficult. (Stative)
- (B) But, I eat it all the time. (Transitive)
- (A) **Yeah, it smells and tastes great. (Stative)**
- (A) **I can teach you how to make it. (Transitive)**
- (B) Awesome! That sound fun! (Stative)

Point 4: Stative verbs **look** and **sound** often show a prediction for a future opinion about something.

- This test **sounds** hard.
- **I think** this test **will be** hard.
- The movie **sounds** interesting.
- **I think** the movie **will be** interesting.
- This soup **looks** good.
- **I think** this soup **will be** delicious.

Point 5: Stative verbs often can be replaced with a Be verb and keep the same meaning.

- This record **sounds** old.
- This record **is** old.
- I **feel** sick.
- I **am** sick.
- This soup **tastes** delicious.
- This soup **is** delicious.

Todd: Oh, that sounds fun. I think bicycle trips sound fun. So you do a bicycle trip across country for maybe one week or two weeks.

Darcy: That sounds not fun. That sounds very tiring and exhausting.

Todd: Oh, really? I think that sounds energizing and exciting, and adventurous and healthy.

Darcy: It sounds like I need to take a nap and take a hot bath to restore myself.

Todd: Well, we definitely have different interests.

Darcy: Yes!





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Darcy: I hate the smell of **fresh coffee**.

Todd: Oh, really? It **doesn't smell** good for you?

Darcy: No, it's so like bitter.

Todd: Oh, really? Oh, wow. I think it smells **so good**. You don't think it smells good.

Darcy: No. I **think hot** chocolate smells good.

Todd: Okay. Okay, there we go. Alright. So next, what feels good?

Darcy: A hot bath **feels good**.

Todd: That's true. A hot bath feels really good. I think a warm sweater on a cold **day feels** really good. Like right after the sweater comes from the dryer, it feels **really nice**.

Darcy: Yes, I love that warm feeling you get when it comes out.

Todd: It's so nice. Also, puppies. Puppies **feel really** nice, right, when you pet puppies?

Darcy: Yeah, I like the **fluffy ones**. They feel really nice.

Todd: They do. They feel really, really nice. Okay. So now, how about taste? What foods taste really good?

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