

Act, State & Status

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- There are some acts that people can do
- There are some states or conditions that people can be in
- There are some statuses for people

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- Can some acts be unlawful?
- Drinking on the beach
  - Driving without a license
  - Crossing the street in the middle of a block
  - Buying cigarettes if under 18

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Can some states be unlawful?

- Being drunk on a public street
- Being high while driving
- Being contagious in a public area
- Being already married when marrying for a second time

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Can some statuses be unlawful?

- Arresting someone for being a Communist (during the McCarthy era)
- Making an obese person buy 2 seats on an airplane (Southwest Airlines)
- Denying a Jewish person membership in a country club
- Questioning a Latino person at a checkpoint
- Denying a marriage license to a gay couple

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The linguistics of  
Act, State & Status

1. Acts= Verbs
  - a) Habitual: *he smokes, she drinks*
  - b) Current: *he is smoking, she is drinking*
2. States= Adjectives (or participles)  
*he is high, she is drunk*
3. Status= Nouns (sometimes adjectives)  
*he is an addict, she is a drunk (ard)*

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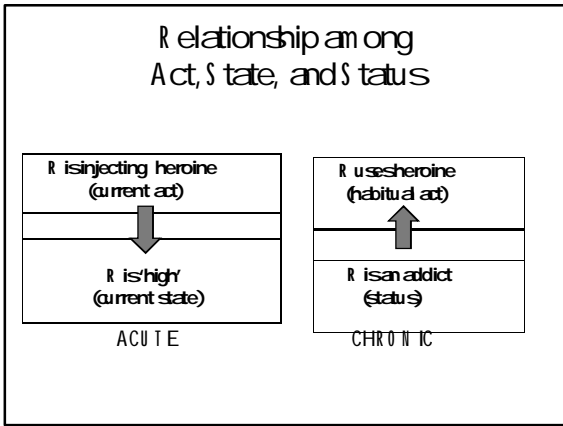
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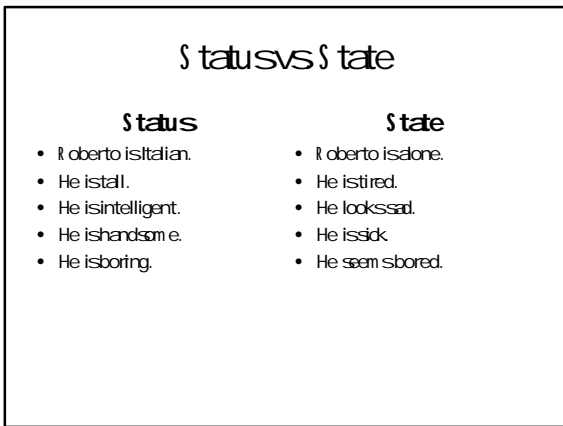
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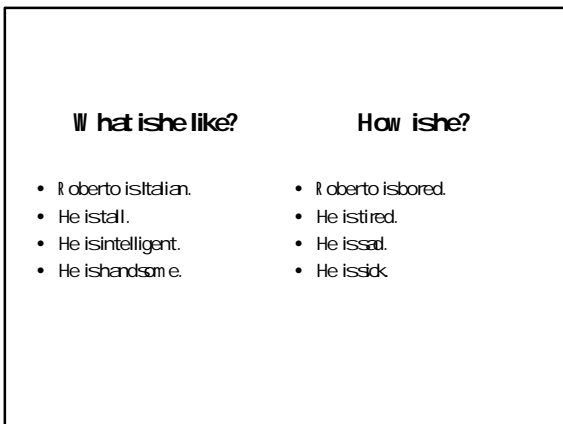
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**What language differentiates status vs state in its grammar?**

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| <b>ser</b>   | <b>estar</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roberto es italiano.</li><li>• Es alto.</li><li>• Es inteligente.</li><li>• Es guapo.</li><li>• Es aburrido.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roberto está solo.</li><li>• Está cansado.</li><li>• Está triste.</li><li>• Está enfermo.</li><li>• Está aburrido.</li></ul> |
| Cómo es?   | Cómo está?   |

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**Subtleties**

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| <b>Status</b>  | <b>State</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vinegar is sour.</li><li>• Ice is cold.</li><li>• The cat is black.</li><li>• The room is dark.<br/>(no sunlight coming in)</li><li>• The apple is green.<br/>(a Granny Smith)</li><li>• I am a zana es verde.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The milk is sour.</li><li>• The coffee is cold.</li><li>• The banana is black.</li><li>• The room is dark.<br/>(the lights are off)</li><li>• The apple is green.<br/>(not ripe)</li><li>• I am a zana está verde.</li></ul> |

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