



Hi again!

We really hope that you have created many good and fun sentences during these past weeks. This week we will build your vocabulary with reflexive verbs. These describe actions that we do to ourselves ... OK, I know it sounds weird, but I could not figure out or found a better, practical description.... Check out the examples and write to us if you found a better, easy to understand expression. (On the other hand, the element of surprise will help you remember this better :-))

So this is what we mean: when we comb the hair of my son, or bath my dog, then I do things to others. (Just to continue the weirdness ;-)) But when I comb myself or I bath or wash myself, then I do these to myself. Or when my son combs his own hair or washes himself then he does something to himself. I am sure you got the point :-)

The good thing is that we create these phrases very easily in Swedish:

Min dotter kammar sig. = A lányom fésülködik.

Min son tvättar sig. = A fiam mosdik.

In many other languages it would be two different verbs. But luckily, you are learning Swedish and in Swedish, just like in English, it is the same verb, you just make sure that you use the right object. And what is that object then:

myself = mig

yourself = dig

himself / herself / itself = sig (yes, this is the only form. See? It is easy!)

ourselves = oss

yourselves = er

themselves = sig (Yapp! Here it is again!)

So let's see some more verbs like this:

Jag klär på mig snabbt. = I get dressed quickly.

Har du gift dig? = Have you gotten married?

Nej, inte än, men vi har förlovat oss. = No, not yet, but we've got engaged.

Jag känner mig glad. = I feel happy.

Han verkar känna sig sur. = He seems sour.

Jag har lärt mig kinesiska i 5 år. = I've been learning Chinese for 5 years.

Det var svårt, men jag har aldrig ångrat mig. = It's been tough but I have never regretted it.

Vi ska bara ta på oss skorna och då är vi redo! = We're just going to put our shoes on and then we are ready.

Sminkar du dig varje dag? = Do you put on makeup everyday?

This next word-pair is a bit tricky, so watch carefully!

"sitta – sätta": sitta = sit; sätta = to make someone/oneself sit

Att sitta = to sit

Imperative: sitt! = sit!

Sitt stilla! = Sit still!

Present tense: sitter

Jag/ du / han / hon ... sitter = I / you / he / she ... sit / sits; I / you / he / she ... am / is / are sitting

Past tense: satt

Jag/ du / han / hon ... satt = I / you / he / she ... sat; I / you / he / she ... was / were sitting

Perfect tenses: har suttit / hade suttit

Jag / du / ... har suttit = I / you ... have sat / have been sitting

Jag / du / ... hade suttit = I / you ... had sat / had been sitting

Jag sitter bekvämt. = I am sitting comfortably.

Han satt på bänken när jag gick förbi. = He was sitting on the bench when I went by.

Vi har suttit här i tre timmar! = We have been sitting here for three hours!

Att sätta = to make someone sit, sitting someone down (indicating movement):

Imperative: sätt

Sätt dig! = Sit down! (you alone, singular)

Sätt /honom/henne/dem ner! = Sit him / her / them down! / Make him / her / them comfortable!

Make him / her / them sit down!

Sätt er ner! = Sit down! (you all, plural)

Present tense: sätter

Jag sätter mig. = I am sitting down (I am in the process of getting seated by myself) (Reflexive; word-by-word: I am sitting myself down / I am seating myself.)

Du sätter dig. = You are (in the process of) sitting down (as we speak).

Jag sätter dig. = I am sitting you down.

Han/Hon/Man sätter sig. = He / She / One is (in the process of) sitting down (right now).

Past tense: satte

Jag satte mig ner = I sat myself down...

Hon satte sin son i bilbarnstolen innan hon satt sig i bilen. = She put her son into the car-seat before she sat in the car.

Perfect tenses: har satt

Hon har satt sig = She has seated herself.

Jag har satt henne på tåget. = I have put her on the train.

Jag sätter mig i en taxi direkt! = I am sitting in a taxi directly!

Hon satt sig i hörnet och inte flyttade på sig hela kvällen. = She sat down in the corner and did not move during the whole night.

Jag har precis satt mig framför teven! = I have just sat down in front of the tv. Besides using these in your daily life, start listening after others, count the new verbs that are used like this in whatever you read or hear – in a discussion, a newspaper, an email, on the radio, a podcast or in a film or anywhere else. Such active listening helps learning SO MUCH!

See you next week! Your Swency Team