

Name _____

Verbs

Action Verbs

The verb states something about the subject. A verb that expresses action is called an **action verb**.

Example: The snake slithered under the log.
The snake slithered under the log, and then it reappeared.
That snake has startled me for the last time! (an auxiliary verb can accompany the action verb)

Underline the action verb in each sentence. Circle the subject.

1. Valerie loves creative gardening.
2. The search for new additions to her garden goes on and on.
3. For instance, yesterday she spotted a wild aster in the brush of a vacant lot.
4. She gently pulled up the aster by its roots.
5. Valerie tucked the flower beside a fuzzy goldenrod in her side yard.
6. The whole yard is brimming with black-eyed susans, sunflowers, and honeysuckle.
7. A pond in the center is filled with water lilies and frogs.
8. Her passion for wildflowers is also demonstrated throughout her garden.
9. She has transformed her yard into a haven for the native flora and associated wildlife.
10. Her choices of plants lure birds, butterflies, and bugs with their nectar and berries.
11. They offer shelter with safe branches and scrubby brambles.
12. Every plant grows as if it has a special purpose.
13. She reads everything available on gardening.
14. Migratory birds and mockingbirds often fly through her little haven.
15. Residential birds like cardinals and bluejays spend their lives there.
16. A bed of bright flowers attracts butterflies and bees.
17. Wild animals are not the only animals tempted by the garden.
18. Youngsters come to Valerie's home for seeds and advice.
19. People from all over town come with thoughtful additions for her garden.
20. They proudly watch their contributions become part of Valerie's wonderful haven.

Lesson 15

Linking Verbs and Predicate Words

A **linking verb** connects the subject of a sentence with a word in the predicate that identifies or describes the subject. *To be* in all its forms is the most common linking verb.

George Washington **was** a general. (The linking verb *was* links *general* to the subject, *George Washington*.)

The computer **will be** useful. (The linking verb *will be* links *useful* to the subject, *computer*.)

COMMON LINKING VERBS

appear	feel	look	seem	sound	taste
become	grow	remain	smell	stay	turn

► **Exercise 1** Draw two lines under each verb. Place a check (✓) in the blank next to each sentence that contains a linking verb.

- _____ Niagara Falls looks breathtaking.
- _____ 1. Niagara Falls is a most spectacular natural wonder!
- _____ 2. The water plunges over a cliff in two separate waterfalls.
- _____ 3. The American Falls lies within the United States.
- _____ 4. Its home state is New York.
- _____ 5. The Horseshoe Falls lies within Canada.
- _____ 6. Ontario is its home province.
- _____ 7. The Niagara River is the source of both of these waterfalls.
- _____ 8. This river becomes part of the border between the United States and Canada.
- _____ 9. It carries the overflow from four of the Great Lakes.
- _____ 10. Niagara Falls is about halfway between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.
- _____ 11. Goat Island separates the Horseshoe Falls and the American Falls.
- _____ 12. A huge amount of water roars over the cliffs every second.
- _____ 13. Eighty-five percent of the water flows over the Horseshoe Falls.
- _____ 14. The water supply seems unending.

Name _____

Ver

Auxiliary Verbs

Auxiliary verbs, also called helping verbs, never occur without a main verb. An **auxiliary verb** helps the main verb to express tense, voice, or mood, but usually has little meaning of its own. Some examples include *be, do, have, can, might, would, may, will, and must*. Two or more verbs combined is called a verb phrase. Verb phrases contain at least one auxiliary verb. Adverbs may appear in the middle of a verb phrase, but they are not part of it.

Example: We are waiting in a long line.
I would have gone with him.
I could hardly wait.

Underline the main verb once. Underline the auxiliary verb(s) twice.

1. The West Highland White Terrier has attained a high degree of popularity as both a loyal pet and a show dog.
2. Before this century, these hardy animals had abounded as working dogs in the Scottish Highlands for over three hundred years.
3. They had earned their livings following fox, badger, and otter for hunters.
4. The ancestors of the breed were known in the past under various names such as Roseneath and Little Skye.
5. The breed was first classified at the annual show of The Scottish Kennel Club in 1904.
6. After 1916, all shows were stopped by World War I.
7. Breeding was prohibited in 1917 and 1918, and no dogs were allowed to be registered.
8. By 1919 breeding had started again, and soon many dogs were registered.
9. A long line of champions has followed.
10. The breed has been described as linty white in color with hard and bristly hair.
11. The Westie should have a long stride, straight shoulders, and a stilted gait.
12. It has been noted for its attentive ears, free, cheerful movement, and high self-esteem.

Linking Verbs

Linking verbs describe conditions instead of actions. They are followed by words that rename or describe the subject. Forms of the verb *to be* are most commonly used as linking verbs, although these forms can also be used as auxiliary verbs in verb phrases. Other forms include *appear, become, feel, grow, look, prove, remain, seem, and turn*. These verbs do not function as linking verbs if they do not describe conditions that are followed by a word that renames or describes the subject.

Example: Carla is my only sister. (linking)
 Carla's friend is running for governor. (auxiliary)
 Bob grew sleepy during the long lecture. (linking)
 Roger grew beautiful roses in his garden. (action)

Look at each underlined verb. If the verb is linking, write L in the blank. If the verb is auxiliary write AUX in the blank. If it is an action verb write ACT in the blank.

- 04.
- _____ 1. Matthew is a really tall fellow.
 - _____ 2. That puppy is following me again.
 - _____ 3. The gypsy turned the tarot card.
 - _____ 4. She turned pale when she saw the ghost.
 - _____ 5. Marsha became a grandmother at sixty-one.
 - _____ 6. He was an Elvis look-alike.
 - _____ 7. Elizabeth felt a fever coming on.
 - _____ 8. Jennifer felt a bit sheepish.
 - _____ 9. The maple tree is a good spot for meditating.
 - _____ 10. The bee was circling my head.
 - _____ 11. His booksack was found in the gym.
 - _____ 12. Her purse looked shabby.
 - _____ 13. The toddler looked under the bed.
 - _____ 14. Mary and Ben remained friends for life.
 - _____ 15. The guilty person remained silent.



Reading On The Move

Past, Present, or Future?

Verb Tense

Verb tense expresses when something happened, is happening, or will happen. In this lesson you will learn about three (3) different tenses. These tenses are ***past tense***, ***present tense***, and ***future tense***.



- ***Past tense*** expresses an action that has already happened. Often times when verbs are in the past tense, they have the suffix **-ed**.

Example: The movie ended at 6 o'clock.

My sister cried all night.

- ***Present tense*** expresses an action that is happening right now.

Example: I am learning about verbs.

She is being noisy.

Present tense also expresses actions that are unchanging, reoccurring, and known truths.

Example: These mountains are tall and white. (unchanging)

Every year, the senior class graduates from high school.

(reoccurring)

H₂O is the chemical symbol for water. (known truth)

- **Future tense** expresses actions that will happen. This is created when the words will and shall are used with a verb.

Example: I shall return.

We will eat dinner.

Read each of the following sentences and write present, past or future on the line.

- _____ 1. Nick feeds his puppy.
- _____ 2. Shelly saw a bumble bee.
- _____ 3. Joe will play golf.
- _____ 4. Ashley will go to school.
- _____ 5. Aaron drinks coffee.
- _____ 6. Casey writes letters to his sister.
- _____ 7. Nate sold his motorcycle.
- _____ 8. Troy plays in a band.
- _____ 9. Elizabeth sings in the choir.
- _____ 10. Henry will go to the market with George.

Choose the correct verb to match the tense in the () parenthesis.

- _____ 11. Mom _____ the groceries inside. (past tense)
- a. carried
 - b. carries
 - c. will carry
- _____ 12. Charlie _____ in the ocean. (future tense)
- a. surfed
 - b. surfs
 - c. will surf

Simple Past Tense

Rewrite each sentence below in the simple past tense.

1. I find that story very amusing.

2. The bird chirps on my window sill every morning.

3. The scissors cut very poorly.

4. Jan will sell her jewelry at the flea market.

5. Mother fixes a balanced lunch for each of her children to take to school.

6. Sarah will tell a scary tale around the campfire.

7. Patty always insists on seeing the positive side of a situation.

8. Patrick will ride in the Kentucky Derby.

9. The pages tear easily.

10. The audience laughs at every line.

Simple Present Tense

Supply a present tense verb in each sentence below.

1. The principal _____ my parents very well.
2. We _____ whenever we get the chance.
3. The dog _____ at everything that moves.
4. I _____ the mail every evening.
5. The yacht _____ in a few hours.
6. The bus usually _____ on schedule.
7. The recipe does not _____ enough detail.
8. The door _____ whenever the wind blows.
9. The dictionary _____ more information than just definitions.
10. The play _____ next weekend.
11. The toddler _____ the puppy like her rag doll.
12. The movie _____ a lot of action.
13. The crown _____ not actually made of precious stones.
14. Mary and I _____ the dishes to help his mother.
15. You should _____ to the doctor for an annual checkup.
16. Both of you _____ a lot of money on shoes.
17. Our family _____ a bright red convertible.
18. Madeline _____ pink lipstick.
19. The detective _____ every lead.
20. You two _____ when she appears.

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Simple Future Tense

Rewrite each sentence in the simple future tense.

1. Valerie bought a new dress to wear to the opera.

2. The instructor teaches young campers to swim.

3. I tried very hard to meet the deadline.

4. The cookies baked in ten minutes.

5. The star member of the basketball team gets a lot of publicity.

6. The photographer took school pictures in October.

7. This type of toy breaks easily.

8. The sculpture was displayed in front of City Hall.

9. That car was used in the parade.

10. Roberta appeared on a local television program this week.

Name _____

Principle Parts and Irregular Verbs

The principle parts of a verb are the three forms upon which all tenses are based.

Present

love

Past

loved

Past Participle (uses has, have, or had)

has, have, or had loved

Many frequently used verbs have principle parts that are irregularly formed.

Present

drive

Past

drove

Past Participle (uses has, have, or had)

has, have, or had driven

The present form of the verb has been given. Fill in the past and the past participle forms. Use a dictionary to check your work.

Present

Past

Past Participle

1. forget
2. respond
3. teach
4. forbid
5. sink
6. slip
7. break
8. freeze
9. talk
10. throw
11. choose
12. stroll
13. hear
14. awake
15. be
16. eat
17. allow
18. ride

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Active and passive

Active sentences describe an action done by the subject.

I directed the award-winning film. (an **active** sentence)

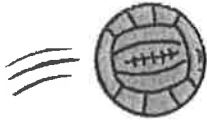
Passive sentences describe an action done to the subject.

The award-winning film was directed by me. (a **passive** sentence)

Change these sentences from **passive** to **active**.

The match was won by our team.

Our team won the match.



The winning goal was scored by Rachel.

Rachel scored the winning goal.

The party was enjoyed by all my friends.

All my friends enjoyed the party.



Jack was stung by an unusual insect.

An unusual insect stung Jack.

Now change these sentences from **active** to **passive**.

Aliens invade our planet.

Our planet is invaded by aliens.

Leonardo da Vinci painted the *Mona Lisa*.

The *Mona Lisa* was painted by Leonardo da Vinci.

The team dislike the group leader.

The group leader is disliked by the team.

The hero piloted his craft with great skill.

The hero's craft was piloted with great skill.

A hurricane struck the town.

The town was struck by a hurricane.

Here the task is to change a sentence from active to passive and *vice versa*. Check that your child understands the difference between the active and passive voices and can use them confidently. It may help if you think up practice sentences together.

Rewrite the following changing the active sentences to passive and passive sentences to active.

1. The thieves have been arrested by the police.
2. The marvelous performance delivered by the children enthralled us.
3. He has been invited to their party.
4. We have shipped your order.
5. The girl recited the poem beautifully.
6. The guests enjoyed the party.
7. The child impressed everyone with his polite manners.
8. A girl from Chennai won the first prize.
9. The readers like the latest book of the writer.
10. They are painting the walls.
11. The car has been fixed by the mechanic.
12. She accepted their invitation with pleasure.

Answers

1. The police have arrested the thieves.
2. We were enthralled by the marvelous performance delivered by the children.