

15.1 The Verb • Practice 1

A verb expresses the action or condition of a person, place, or thing.

VERBS	
Action	Condition
amuse	was
inspected	seems
remember	become
begins	am
discovered	appear

Exercise 1 **Recognizing Verbs.** Underline the verb in each sentence below. In the blank, indicate whether the verb expresses *action* or *condition*.

EXAMPLE: Marlene memorized her speech in half an hour. action

- Judd offered a reward for the lost wallet. action
- This stew tastes too salty. condition
- Shannon always wears funny hats. action
- At the age of five, Larry gave his first recital. action
- Even after the argument, Gary remained loyal to his old friend. Condition
- We felt refreshed after a shower and a cold drink. Condition
- Linda played shortstop during the last half of the season. action
- That pitcher is famous for his curve ball. condition
- Laura seems upset about something. Condition
- We carefully planned every detail of the party. action

Exercise 2 **Adding Verbs to Sentences.** Complete each sentence below with a verb of the kind indicated in parentheses.

EXAMPLE: Lauren practices the piano two hours every day. (action)

- Marc _____ soccer better than basketball. (action)
- The nurse _____ the patient's temperature. (action)
- We _____ disappointed in the outcome of the game. (condition)
- Paula _____ good in that shade of blue. (condition)
- Kevin _____ the experiment several times. (action)
- The child's endless questions _____ her parents. (action)
- Yesterday, a record number of fans _____ the game. (action)
- Those leaves _____ orange in autumn. (condition)
- That song _____ better on the piano than on the guitar. (condition)
- Gerry _____ her lesson the hard way. (action)

15.1 The Verb • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Recognizing Verbs. Underline the verb in each sentence below.

- EXAMPLE:** Mrs. Bethune received donations from the school.
1. Mary McLeod Bethune dreamed of a school for black children.
 2. She explored different locations.
 3. Daytona, Florida, was her choice.
 4. She felt sure of herself and her idea.
 5. Five students paid fifty cents a week as tuition.
 6. Mrs. Bethune taught her pupils useful skills.
 7. The school grew larger each year.
 8. In the evening, adults studied there.
 9. The students worked very hard.
 10. Mrs. Bethune became a famous educator.

Exercise 2 More Work With Verbs. Underline the verb in each sentence below.

1. My friend Mark enjoys skiing.
2. Last year his family spent two weeks in Vail, Colorado.
3. He and his brother Paul tried the beginner slopes.
4. Soon they felt confident.
5. Mark and Paul attended some classes in skiing.
6. They seemed excited about the sport.
7. Several days later, the boys attempted a steeper slope.
8. This attempt was successful.
9. Mark skillfully raced past a group of people.
10. Now he is an experienced skier.

Writing Application Using Verbs in Sentences. Write a paragraph of five or more sentences explaining how to do or make something. Underline the verbs in your sentences.

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15.1 Linking Verbs • Practice 1

A linking verb joins a noun or pronoun at or near the beginning of a sentence with a word at or near the end. The word at the end identifies or describes the noun or pronoun.

LINKING VERBS					
Forms of Be				Other Linking Verbs	
am	am being	can be	have been	appear	seem
are	are being	could be	has been	become	smell
is	is being	may be	had been	feel	sound
was	was being	might be	could have been	grow	stay
were	were being	must be	may have been	look	taste
		shall be	might have been	remain	turn
		should be	must have been		
		will be	shall have been		
		would be	should have been		
			will have been		
			would have been		

Exercise 1 Recognizing Linking Verbs. Circle the linking verb in each sentence below. Then, underline the words that are linked by the verb.

EXAMPLE: Penny grew tall over the summer.

- Beginning violinists usually sound terrible for the first few weeks.
- Rail service in this area has been irregular recently.
- With Steven away on vacation, I am bored.
- The crowd became restless because of the long delay.
- Erica's friends were happy about her success.
- Jerry feels listless much of the time recently.
- Louisa should have been more careful about her facts.
- Those cookies smell delicious.
- Linus feels secure with his blanket.
- Alicia remained calm throughout the blackout.

Use list at top of page.

Exercise 2 Adding Linking Verbs to Sentences. Complete each sentence below with an appropriate linking verb. Then, underline the two words that are linked by the verb.

EXAMPLE: Jason appeared nervous at the beginning of his speech.

- Nancy _____ lucky at winning the drawing.
- Some of the questions _____ hard to understand.
- The order _____ too large for one shipment.
- Dorothy _____ surprised to be back in Kansas.
- The store _____ open even after the fire.
- Phil _____ confused about the announcement.
- The weather _____ cold during the night.
- Luke _____ an actor in spite of his parents' objections.
- Jennie _____ excited about her news.
- M-m-m-m, something _____ good in here.

15.2

Helping Verbs • Practice 1

A helping verb is a verb that comes before the main verb and adds to its meaning.

COMMON HELPING VERBS			
am	being	could	must
are	been	do	shall
is	have	does	should
was	has	did	will
were	had	may	would
be	can	might	

Exercise 1

Identifying Helping Verbs. Underline each helping verb in the sentences below. Circle the main verb in each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Carol has been studying French this summer.

- The kitchen staff will be servicing from 4:30 until 9:00.
- The train should arrive any minute.
- Dr. Young has examined our dog.
- My little brother can be a real pest sometimes.
- The secretary has ordered a new supply of erasers.
- Perhaps Jake really did forget his boots.
- Grandma may know the answer.
- Judson has taken a job at the supermarket.
- I am waiting for a phone call.
- Elsa should have tried harder.

Exercise 2

Adding Helping Verbs to Sentences. Fill in each blank below with an appropriate helping verb.

EXAMPLE: Paul is taking a computer course at summer school.

- Surely everyone _____ be surprised to see us.
- Someone _____ told Mandy about the surprise party.
- Uncle Dave _____ working at the bank for twenty years.
- Susan _____ visiting her grandparents.
- I _____ seen that movie twice already.
- The run of the play _____ extended for two more weeks.
- Lou _____ need some help.
- Patty _____ be sorry she said that.
- I _____ studied harder for that test.
- Quentin _____ painting the house all summer.

use list