

Verbs

- A **verb** is a word that expresses action or state of being.

EXAMPLES:

Chelsea **went** to school.
These books **are** yours.
Lizabeth and Patrick **sing** in the school choir.



Underline the verb in each sentence.

1. Where are the Rocky Mountains?
2. W. C. Handy wrote "Saint Louis Blues."
3. Check your papers carefully.
4. Bananas have great food value.
5. Africa is the home of the hippopotamus.
6. The car reached the narrow bridge.
7. Gwendolyn Brooks won a Pulitzer Prize.
8. Ricardo trains good mechanics.
9. Felicia wears a black wool coat to the office.
10. How many stars are on the U.S. flag?
11. The people of our town remember the cold winter.
12. Peter Minuit bought Manhattan for about twenty-four dollars.
13. What is your favorite book?
14. They followed the old trail to the top of the hill.
15. The wind whistled around the corner.
16. Ericka always watches the news.
17. Their team scored twice in the first half.
18. Which driver won the car race?
19. The big house on the corner is white.
20. Mexico is the southern neighbor of the United States.
21. Taylor set the table for five people.
22. Answer my question.
23. Mrs. Sung explained the commands on the computer for us.
24. Rashid worked in an electronics assembly plant.
25. Our town has a public swimming pool.
26. My son plays the saxophone in the band.
27. Brush your teeth frequently.
28. A puff of wind whirled the leaves over the lawn.
29. We arrived at our camp early in the morning.
30. Where is the launching pad?

Action Verbs

- An **action verb** is a verb that expresses action.
EXAMPLE: The track star **ran** fast.



Underline the action verb in each sentence.

1. Watch your favorite television program.
2. Andrea carefully dusted her new piano.
3. Anna, copy the addresses correctly.
4. A wood fire burned in the huge fireplace.
5. This button fell off my favorite sweater.
6. The Harlem Globetrotters play basketball throughout the world.
7. The musicians practiced for the concert.
8. The waves dashed the small boat against the rocks.
9. A sentence expresses a complete thought.
10. Everybody enjoys a good laugh.
11. This long, narrow trail leads to the mountaintop.
12. It snowed almost every day in February.
13. We hiked through the southern part of Arizona.
14. Dan made me a delicious sandwich.
15. Please hand me the salt, Mom.
16. Draw a line under each verb.
17. We skated on Lake Superior.
18. The tour guide answered all my questions.
19. The city repaired that pothole last week.
20. Early settlers suffered many hardships in their travels.
21. Address your application letter to the personnel director.
22. They moved the car from the street.
23. Thomas Edison often worked eighteen hours a day.
24. Carlo directs the community choir.
25. The team played soccer all afternoon.
26. We walked along the beach for an hour.
27. Who helped you with your science project?
28. The old bridge collapsed.
29. The antique clock ticked loudly.
30. Ava ate everything on her plate.
31. Bernard cheered for his son's team.

- A **linking verb** does not show action. Instead, it links the subject to a word that describes or identifies the subject.
- Verbs that show state of being are linking verbs (am, is, are, was, were).

EXAMPLES:

We **were** cold.

Jancy **is** a dancer.

- A verb is a linking verb if it can replace one of the verbs of being (for example: look, feel, taste, smell, sound, seem, become).

EXAMPLES:

Jarret **looked** tired.

The soup **tastes** delicious.



Underline the linking verb in each sentence.

1. Karla appears nervous.
2. She is the first singer on the program.
3. Last year she was last on the program.
4. Another performer is last this year.
5. The stage looks beautiful.
6. The bouquets are gifts from friends.
7. The flowers smell fresh.
8. Karla feels ready to start.
9. Her song sounds wonderful.
10. The audience seems pleased.
11. Jacob is a dancer and Karla's partner.
12. He feels confident about his performance.
13. He is ready to go onstage.
14. A week ago he was worried about this event.
15. Now he is certain about all his dance moves.
16. Karla looks proud as she watches Jacob.
17. Karla and Jacob are happy about the show.
18. The audience seems thrilled.
19. Afterward, all of the food tastes delicious.
20. Jacob and Karla are excited.



Complete each sentence with a linking verb from the box. You may use the verbs more than once.

am appeared are became is seemed was were

21. Toby _____ frightened.
22. He _____ alone in the cabin for the first time.
23. In the dark forest, everything _____ threatening.
24. Because of the storm, the lights _____ dim.
25. Even the shadows _____ strange.
26. "This _____ stupid," he thought to himself.
27. "I _____ brave; I'm not a coward."
28. "Where _____ Pablo?" he wondered.
29. "There _____ bears in the woods."
30. "What if Pablo _____ lost?" Toby worried.

Verb Phrases

- A sentence may contain a **verb phrase**. A verb phrase is a main verb with one or more helping verbs.

EXAMPLES:

The girls **are singing**.
Where **have you been**?



Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence.

1. The first schools were held in homes.
2. Who invented the jet engine?
3. The *New England Primer* was the earliest textbook in the United States.
4. John Philip Sousa was a bandmaster and composer.
5. Who built the first motorcycle?
6. My friends will arrive on Saturday afternoon.
7. What was the final score?
8. Ryan has made this unusual birdhouse.
9. The waves covered the beach with many shells.
10. I have ridden on a motor scooter.
11. The artist is molding clay.
12. Belle and her family spent last summer in the Ozarks.
13. The supervisor posted the names of the new employees.
14. Aaron has found a new hat.
15. She is going to the store.
16. We have trimmed the hedges.
17. Our nation exports many kinds of food.
18. My friend is reading a book about World War II.
19. Jane Addams helped many foreign-born people in Chicago.
20. Oil was discovered in West Texas.
21. Jenny Lind was called "the Swedish Nightingale."
22. We are planning a car trip to Kansas City.
23. That dog has howled for two hours.
24. Our guests have arrived.
25. I have written letters to several companies.
26. I can name three important cities in this state.
27. The hummingbird received its name because of the sound of its wings.
28. Jolene's poem was in the newspaper.
29. Chuck and Patty are working at the hamburger stand.
30. Before the flood, we had painted the house dark green.

Helping Verbs

- The last word of a verb phrase is the **main verb**.
- The other words in a verb phrase are **helping verbs**.

helping verb main verb
 ↓ ↓
 EXAMPLES:
 Angie and Jon **were** **playing** in their yard.
 The manager **had** **displayed** the apples.

- The helping verbs are:
 am, are, is, was, were, be, being, been (**forms of be**)
 have, has, had (**forms of have**)
 do, does, did (**forms of do**)
 can, could, shall, should, will, would, must, may, might



Underline the verb phrase and circle the helping verb in each sentence below.

1. Mina and Mick have begun their spring cleaning.
2. Mina will rake the leaves on the front lawn.
3. Mick must clean the garage.
4. Together they will wash all the windows.
5. Some friends might prepare lunch for the two of them.
6. The cooks should wash their hands first.
7. Sandwiches and fruit salad would make a delicious lunch on a hot day.
8. Their next-door neighbor is working on his lawn, too.
9. He has sprayed his front and back lawns with a fertilizer.
10. Every worker must close the garbage bags tightly.
11. Squirrels, raccoons, and large crows would enjoy the garbage.
12. They might finish the outside work today.
13. You must arrive here by tomorrow.
14. Did anyone like the movie?
15. The painters may paint the side of the house.
16. Jennifer is visiting her sister in Vancouver.
17. The musician had practiced the piece several times.
18. Who will drive us to the hospital?
19. The actor has read the script.
20. Jerome and his co-workers were playing baseball in the field.
21. The schoolchildren had begun their homework.
22. She will drive to Cleveland.
23. I will eat my lunch soon.
24. Do you want this brown coat?
25. We shall enter the contest tomorrow.

Subject-Verb Agreement

- A **singular subject** must have a **singular verb**.

EXAMPLES:

Janet **lives** there.

Does she walk to work?

She **doesn't live** near the bus.

- A **plural subject** must have a **plural verb**.

EXAMPLES:

Janet and her sister **live** there.

Do they walk to work?

They **don't live** near the bus.

- You and I must have plural verbs.



Underline the subject of each sentence. Write **S** above each singular subject and **P** above each plural subject. Then underline the correct verb form in parentheses to complete the sentence.

1. Many stories (tell, tells) how dogs become friends of people.
2. A story by Rudyard Kipling (say, says) that Wild Dog agrees to help hunt and guard in exchange for bones.
3. After that, Wild Dog (become, becomes) First Friend.
4. Many dogs never (leave, leaves) their masters.
5. In another story of loyalty in the wild, an Arctic dog (doesn't, don't) leave his master's dead body.
6. There are few people in history that (hasn't, haven't) recorded the usefulness of dogs.
7. Studies in Egypt (prove, proves) that the dog was a companion in ancient Egypt.
8. Bones of dogs (has, have) appeared in Egyptian graves.
9. Ancient Greek vases (picture, pictures) dogs on them.
10. Today the Leader Dog organization (train, trains) dogs to guide the blind.
11. One blind man said, "My eyes (have, has) a wet nose."
12. A dog (does, do) have excellent hearing and smelling abilities.
13. What society (doesn't, don't) agree that a dog is a person's best friend?
14. Dogs (is, are) very loyal and devoted.
15. Sometimes a dog (need, needs) to go to obedience school.
16. Dogs (find, finds) out how to obey their masters there.
17. Many people (agree, agrees) that a trained dog is wonderful company.
18. A dog (doesn't, don't) always want just dog food.
19. Dogs also (likes, like) to eat dinner scraps!

Verb Tenses

- The **tense** of a verb tells the time: present, past, or future.
- **Present tense** means that something happens in the present.

EXAMPLES:

Mandy **dances** in the show.

My piano lessons **start** today.

- **Past tense** means that something happened in the past. Regular past tense verbs end in **d** or **ed**.

EXAMPLES:

Mandy **danced** in the show.

My piano lessons **started** last June.

- **Future tense** means that something will happen in the future. Future tense verbs use **will**.

EXAMPLES:

Mandy **will dance** in the show.

My piano lessons **will start** next month.



Write **present, past, or future** for the tense of each underlined verb.

1. My computer class will end next week. future
2. I really learned a lot. _____
3. I never worked with computers before. _____
4. I dream of a computer of my own now. _____
5. My new job will start soon. _____
6. I need computer skills for the job. _____
7. I signed up for the class to learn about them. _____
8. The job will use all my new skills. _____
9. Several people interviewed for the job. _____
10. Luckily, I watch the newspaper ads. _____




Rewrite the sentences by changing the underlined verbs to the past tense.

11. Carmen's little dog will follow her everywhere.


12. He will bark and jump at her heels.

13. He walks along behind her, and he even travels in the car with her.

Verb Tenses, p. 2

 Complete each sentence by changing the verb to the tense shown in parentheses.

- 14. arrive (future) Hillary will arrive tomorrow.
- 15. pick (future) Casey _____ her up at the airport.
- 16. walk (past) We _____ to the restaurant yesterday.
- 17. need (past) Jacy _____ to make reservations for dinner.
- 18. watch (present) Hillary _____ my children for me.
- 19. walk (future) We _____ to the center for a sightseeing tour.
- 20. seem (present) Leslie _____ very excited about Hillary's visit.
- 21. visit (past) Keisha _____ her cousin Tobi last week.
- 22. wash (past) Jason _____ his car before work today.
- 23. dance (present) Keisha _____ at that club every weekend.
- 24. train (future) I _____ for that job soon.
- 25. prepare (past) Suzanne _____ the entire meal.
- 26. start (past) Hiroshi _____ cooking for friends, too.
- 27. inform (future) Angela _____ her co-worker of the new rules.

 Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence. Then write present, past, or future for the tense of each verb.

- 28. My sister and her family live in a house near mine. present
- 29. Sometimes I take my nieces to the library. _____
- 30. Often they play in front of my house. _____
- 31. One day Kara threw the ball very hard to Joslyn. _____
- 32. The ball sailed over Joslyn's head and into the street. _____
- 33. Joslyn ran toward the street. _____
- 34. I shouted to Joslyn. _____
- 35. Usually Joslyn listens to me. _____
- 36. I got the ball from the street. _____
- 37. My sister called for her to come home. _____
- 38. Next time they will play only in the backyard. _____

Irregular Verbs

- To form the past and past participle of some **irregular verbs**, change the vowels (or vowel sounds) of the present.
- To form the past participle of some irregular verbs, add a final n sound (n, en, ne).
- A dictionary shows the principal parts of irregular verbs.

EXAMPLES:

Present	Present Participle	Past	Past Participle
drink	(is) drinking	drank	(has) drunk (change vowels)
bite	(is) biting	bit	(has) bitten (change vowel sound and add final n)
do	(is) doing	did	(has) done (add final ne)

- ✿ Write the principal parts of each verb. You may use a dictionary if necessary.

PRESENT	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
1. come	(is) coming	came	(has) come
2. eat	_____	_____	_____
3. see	_____	_____	_____
4. take	_____	_____	_____

- ✿ Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

- (see) I never SAW a waterfall so steep before.
- (take) Lauren is _____ the hammer with her.
- (see) We are _____ the end of the passenger train.
- (take) Haven't you _____ your lunch break yet?
- (eat) Have you ever _____ a spiced olive?
- (take) On their last trip, Carey _____ all the photographs.
- (do) Who _____ the landscaping around this building last year?
- (do) We have _____ a lot of outside reading on the topic for discussion.
- (come) People have _____ from around the world to see Carlsbad Caverns.
- (eat) Last year on vacation we _____ unusual foods in every part of the country.
- (see) Thomas, you should have _____ the last game.
- (come) Most of the joggers _____ down this trail in the last race.

Irregular Verbs, p. 2



Write the principal parts of each verb. You may use a dictionary.

PRESENT	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
17. begin	_____	_____	_____
18. go	_____	_____	_____
19. drive	_____	_____	_____
20. give	_____	_____	_____
21. run	_____	_____	_____



Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

22. (give) My friend _____ this poem to me.
23. (run) The excited children _____ down the street.
24. (go) Work on the new building had _____ well until now.
25. (begin) I _____ this project yesterday.
26. (drive) Aren't you _____ a new car?
27. (drive) Samuel, have you ever _____ a car?
28. (give) Gwendolyn Brooks has _____ us many interesting poems.
29. (begin) The supervisor of the crew is _____ to explain the work orders.
30. (run) Rachel, have you _____ into Sarah?
31. (go) The little girl _____ to visit her grandparents last week.
32. (begin) That problem _____ last year.
33. (give) My friends have _____ me a present for my birthday.
34. (go) The weatherman says it is _____ to rain.
35. (run) After the rumble of thunder, Jarred _____ to get out of the rain.
36. (give) Mrs. Williams has _____ me a job on Saturday afternoons.
37. (give) Donell, who _____ you this watch?
38. (begin) We haven't _____ work on the new roof yet.
39. (drive) We _____ to work in the van this morning.
40. (begin) Scott _____ to rake the leaves early this fall.
41. (run) Michelle is _____ for election to the school board.

More Irregular Verbs



Write the principal parts of each verb. You may use a dictionary.

PRESENT	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
1. grow	_____	_____	_____
2. know	_____	_____	_____
3. ring	_____	_____	_____
4. sing	_____	_____	_____
5. speak	_____	_____	_____



Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

6. (sing) Have you ever _____ a solo?
7. (grow) Last night at dusk, my eyes _____ accustomed to the dark.
8. (know) On last week's test, Rob _____ the answer before anyone.
9. (grow) It has _____ very cold during the last hour.
10. (sing) Ricardo is _____, although his throat is sore.
11. (ring) Why hasn't the bell _____?
12. (grow) Lettuce has _____ in China for many years.
13. (speak) Cyndi _____ to her boss yesterday.
14. (ring) The mail carrier _____ the doorbell at the vacant house several times.
15. (speak) Has Rafael _____ to you about his promotion?
16. (speak) A traffic officer is _____ to a group of concerned citizens.
17. (sing) Natasha and her sister _____ on a local TV program last week.
18. (know) We have _____ the members of that family a long time.
19. (ring) The mission bells _____ each morning last week.
20. (speak) Have you _____ to your teacher yet?
21. (grow) Chet, I believe you have _____ a prize-winning rose.
22. (know) We have _____ Roberto's brother for three years.
23. (grow) Because of the rain, the grass is _____ rapidly.
24. (ring) The phone _____ frequently during my favorite television show last night.
25. (speak) My mother has _____ of you quite often, Mrs. Brown.

More Irregular Verbs, p. 2



Write the principal parts of each verb. You may use a dictionary.

PRESENT	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
26. blow	_____	_____	_____
27. break	_____	_____	_____
28. choose	_____	_____	_____
29. draw	_____	_____	_____
30. fly	_____	_____	_____



Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

31. (draw) Kim has _____ many cartoons for the daily paper.
32. (blow) Yesterday's storm _____ tumbleweeds across the prairie.
33. (fly) The tiny mockingbird is _____ from its nest.
34. (choose) John _____ only fresh vegetables for last night's salad.
35. (choose) Our bowling club has _____ new officers.
36. (blow) Has the five o'clock whistle _____?
37. (break) I accidentally _____ my sister's antique vase.
38. (break) Her promise had not been _____
39. (choose) The coach is _____ the lineup for today's game.
40. (draw) A famous artist _____ these old sketches.
41. (break) One of the windows in the factory had _____ during the storm.
42. (break) The handle of my hammer _____ while I was using it.
43. (choose) Has anyone _____ the menu for our lunch?
44. (fly) Shannon had _____ to Rochester, New York.
45. (break) Those pipes _____ last February.
46. (choose) Do you think I have _____ wisely?
47. (break) They _____ our winning streak last week.
48. (draw) Have you _____ a map to your house, Leo?
49. (break) Who is _____ these windows?
50. (draw) The architect has _____ the plans for the new house.