

VERBS

Verbs are words that tell what a subject is doing.

Or

A verb tells about the action of a subject.

Important: verbs come after a subject.

Types of verbs:

1. Main or Action verb:

Main verbs or action verbs are used to express action; something that an animal, a person or a thing does

Examples:

- The sun is shining.
- I am reading a book.
- The machine stops itself after every two hours.
- He plays football.

2. Helping verbs:

Helping verbs are used with main verb to help it express what the subject does along with showing the tense, negative or question nature of a sentence.

List of helping verbs:

helping verbs are derived from word from **to be, to have, to do** they are:

Is	Am	Are	Was
Were	Have	Has	Had
Do	Did	Does	Shall
Will	Be	Been	Being

Structure for using helping verbs:

Helping verbs + Main verb

Examples:

- i. Ann is reading a book.
- ii. Jim is writing a letter.
- iii. I had baked a cake yesterday.
- iv. He will come next week
- v. He had been copying this letter.

3. Modal Auxiliary Verbs:

Modal verbs are those verbs that combine with other verbs (main verbs) to express certainty, ability, intention, necessity, obligation, opinion, permission, possibility, probability, prohibition, and speculation.

Table of Modal Verbs & Semi Modal Verbs

Modal Verbs:

Can	Could	Will
Shall	Should	May
Might	Must	Would

Semi Modal Verbs:

Ought to	Need to	Have to, and Used to
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Functions of Modal Verbs:

i. Ability	Can/Could
ii. Possibility	May/Might
iii. Obligation	Must/Should/ Have/Need to
iv. Willingness	Will/Would
v. Permission	Can/Could/May
vi. Request	Can/Could/Will
vii. Offer	Would/Will/Should/Shall
viii. Suggestion	Could
ix. Advice	Should/Ought to/Must/Have/Need to

IMPORTANT:

- i. Modal verbs are always used with main verbs because they cannot stand alone.
- ii. Modal verbs do not have forms i.e. -s/-es, -ing, -ed.
- iii. Third form of verb is used only with have.
- iv. Indicate present and future action only.

Examples:

- i. If Andy **can** swim, he will accept the swimming invitation.
- ii. I **might** attend the function tomorrow.
- iii. John **should** study harder if he wants to get good grades.
- iv. It **will** rain tonight.
- v. She **must** have done it.
- vi. The passengers **might have started** their journey by now.
- vii. We **ought to** help the needy.

4. Linking Verb or Cupula:

A linking verb is a verb which connects a subject and a complement. A complement can be a noun, a pronoun or an adjective.

Structure: Subject + verb + (adjective, noun/ complement)

IMPORTANT ABOUT LINKING VERBS:

1. Complement (noun) renames the subject.
2. Adjective modifies/ describes the subject/ equate adjective to the subject.

List of linking verbs:

Form of to be verbs	Form of to become verbs	Form to seem verbs	Stative & Dynamic verbs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Am○ Is○ Is being○ Are○ Are being○ Was○ Was being○ Were○ Has○ Has been○ Have been○ Will have been○ Had been○ Are being○ Might have been	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Become○ Becomes○ Became○ Has become○ Have become○ Had become○ Will become○ Will have become	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Seemed○ Seeming○ Seems○ Has seemed○ Have seemed○ Had seemed○ Will seem	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Grow○ Look○ Prove○ Remain○ Smell○ Sound○ Taste○ Turn○ Stay○ Get○ Appear○ Feel

Examples:

- The kittens soon **grew** strong. (subject is kittens and strong is acting like an adjective)
- The patient **remained** weak. (subject is patient and weak is acting like an adjective)
- She **is** a nurse. (she is subject and nurse is renaming she)
- Beethoven **was** an amazing composer. (Subject is Beethoven, composer is renaming the subject and amazing is functioning as adjective.)

Important:

Structure for complement: Subject + Linking Verb + Noun

Structure for Adjective: subject + Linking Verb + Adjective

Difference between a linking verb and an action verb.

- An action verb shows an action done by a subject which is received by an object.
Subject + verb + object (object is a noun that does not refer to the subject)
- A linking verb does not show an action but give information about the subject.

Examples:

- ✚ She was smelling the flowers.
Explanation: Action verb is smelling and flowers are object.
- ✚ The flowers smelled wonderful.
Explanation: Smelled is linking verb connecting flowers to wonderful which is an adjective.
- ✚ John became the boss.
Explanation: Became is a linking verb and the boss is referring to the subject John.
- ✚ Ann met the writer.
Explanation: Met is action verb because it is passing over to the writer.

5. Finite Verbs:

A finite verb is a verb that has

- Firstly, an agreement with subject i.e. it changes with person (first, second and third), number (singular and plural).
- Secondly, it shows tenses as well. (all present, past and future form).
- Thirdly, it is a main verb in a sentence or a clause.

Example:

- The plane crashed on to the bush. (past)
- Allen is going to the park. (present)
- He eats an apple daily. (present tense and agreement of verb for singular subject.)
- He will write a letter tomorrow. (future tense is shown by will first form of verb will be used to show agreement with the subject he.)

6. Non-Finite Verbs:

Non-finite verb are those verbs that do not have any relation to the subject (number/person) or tense nor they function as a main verb of a sentence.

Types of Non-finite verbs:

a. Infinitives:

Infinitives are root verbs (basic verbs/action verbs) that are used with to.

Purpose of using infinitives: infinitives are used to show purpose/reason of someone or something.

Important: Infinitives answer **why?**

Structure of infinitives: to + first form of verb. (root/ basic verb/action)

Important:

Infinitives are not used as prepositions but they are used with prepositions.

Example: It would be silly of him **to spend** all his money.

Explanation:

- Preposition: of + him
- Structure of a preposition: Preposition + Noun
according to rule a noun/ pronoun must come after a preposition.
- Infinitive: to spend
Structure of an infinitive: To + Verb
An infinitive to must be followed by a verb.
- A preposition **does not answer why** but **joins** a noun/ pronoun with rest of the sentence. While an infinitive **answer why**.

Examples:

- He encouraged his friends to vote for him.
Q. Why did he encourage his friends?
A. To vote for him.

- ii. We started our journey early to avoid traffic.
Q. Why did we start our journey early?
A. To avoid traffic.
- iii. We spoke quietly not to awake the children.
Q. Why we spoke quietly?
A. Not to awake the children.

b. Gerund

Gerunds are also known as verbal. Gerunds are **-ing** form of verbs that function as nouns. They are **not used as action verbs**. gerunds are used as subject, object or object of prepositions.

Structure of gerund: Verb first form + ing.

Examples:

Swimming, eating, playing, flying.

Examples sentences:

- i. Swimming a good exercise. (Subject)
- ii. He **reduced** his weight because **of** swimming.
(object of preposition. preposition+ noun)
- iii. He **enjoys** swimming. (object)
- iv. Flying high **makes** me dizzy.
- v. He **liked** flying.
- vi. John never got **tired of** flying when he was young.

c. Participles:

Participles are verbal adjectives because verbs function as adjectives. Participles are not used as main verbs.

Types of participles:

There are two types of participles:

- i. Present participle
- ii. Past participle

Structure of Participles:

- Present participle: Verb's first form + ing (shows incomplete action)
- Past participle: verb's third form -ed (shows completed action)

Identification of a participle:

Since participles function as an adjective therefore, a noun must follow them.

Endings for Past Participle:

- -ed, -en, -t, -d, -n.

Examples:

- ❖ Burnt.
- ❖ Broken.
- ❖ Blown
- ❖ Ground.

Sentence Examples:

- Don't waste time **staring** at the **closed door**.
- The **broken glasses** were **repaired**.
- The **burnt roast** was **thrown** away.
- **Law abiding citizens** are **like** by everyone.
- **Developed countries** were **given** such opportunities.
- They **hosted lunch** **to bid farewell** to their boss.

7. Transitive Verbs:

Transitive verb is action verb that requires an object to complete the meaning.

Example for transitive verb (verbs with single object-noun/pronoun):

- i. The boy kicked the **football**.
- ii. The policeman blew his **whistle**.
- iii. Pat bought a **book**.
- iv. Ann is baking a **cake**.
- v. Jim broke the **window**.

Examples for ditransitive verbs (verbs with two objects-nouns/pronoun).

- i. He bought his **brother** a new **car**.
- ii. She did not lend **him** her **camera**.
- iii. The committee appointed my **boss** the new **team leader**.
- iv. Linford gave the **librarian** the **textbook**.

8. Intransitive Verbs:

Intransitive verbs are those verbs that do not need an object to complete the meaning.

Examples:

- i. The dog is barking.
- ii. She smiled.
- iii. The plane landed.
- iv. The baby slept.
- v. The student nodded.
- vi. We gazed.
- vii. They rested.
- viii. We are hungry.

Important:

If an object is added, the verb would still remain an intransitive verb.

Example:

- i. The baby slept soundly.
- ii. We rested under a tree.

- iii. She smiled at her friend.
- iv. The dog is barking at the man standing outside.

9. Regular Verbs:

Regular verbs are those verbs that follow a set pattern while changing its form from base verb to simple past/ past indefinite form of verb or past participle form of verb.

Changing rules:

- i. If the base verb end with -e, simply add -d to it.
- ii. If the base verb does not end with -e, add -ed.
- iii. If the base verb ends with -y, add -ied.

Examples:

Base Verb	Simple Past/ Past Indefinite	Past Participle
Dress	Dressed	Dressed
Study	Studied	Studied
Hate	Hated	Hated
Fix	Fixed	Fixed

10. Irregular verbs:

Irregular verbs are those verbs that do not follow a set pattern while changing from base verb to simple past/ past indefinite form of verb or past participle form of verb.

Important points about irregular verbs:

- i. Simple past and past participle forms of verb are same as base verb.
- ii. Simple past and past participle forms of verb are same but different from the base verb.
- iii. Base and participle forms of verb are similar but different from simple past form of verb.
- iv. Base, simple past and past participle forms of verb are completely different from each other.

Base Verb	Simple Past/ Past Indefinite	Past Participle
Cost	Cost	Cost
Cut	Cut	Cut
Feel	Felt	Felt
Sell	Sold	Sold
Run	Ran	Run
Come	Came	Come
Drink	Drank	Drunk
Eat	Ate	Eaten

11. Stative Verbs:

Stative verbs are those verbs that show a state/ condition of a subject.

Types of stative verbs:

- i. Thoughts
- ii. Emotions
- iii. State of being (physical condition)
- iv. Relationships
- v. Senses
- vi. Measurement

Usage of stative verbs:

Stative verbs are **never** used with **-ing** forms (continuous) because these forms show happening of action. They are **used** with **simple tenses/indefinite tenses** only. Simple tenses are:

- i. Simple present tense/Present indefinite tense.
- ii. Simple past tense/Past indefinite tense
- iii. Simple future tense/Future indefinite tense

Example:

- I am hearing voices. (Action verb)
- I **hear** music coming from the next room. (senses) [coming is the action verb]

Table of some stative verbs:

Possession	Mental states		Emotions	Senses	State of being & others
➤ Have	➤ Deny	➤ Suppose	➤ Love	➤ Sound	➤ Cost
➤ Own	➤ Promise	➤ Recognize	➤ Like	➤ Hear	➤ Measure
➤ Possess	➤ Satisfy	➤ Forget	➤ Dislike	➤ Smell	➤ Weigh
➤ Lack	➤ Realize	➤ Remember	➤ Hate	➤ See	➤ Owe
➤ Consist	➤ Appear	➤ Imagine	➤ Adore	➤ Taste	➤ Seem
➤ Involve	➤ Astonish	➤ Mean	➤ Prefer	➤ Touch	➤ Fit
➤ Include	➤ Please	➤ Agree	➤ Care for	➤ Feel	➤ Depend
➤ Contain	➤ Impress	➤ Know	➤ Mind	➤ Look	➤ Matter
	➤ Surprise	➤ Believe	➤ Want		➤ Sick
	➤ Concern	➤ Understand	➤ Need		➤ Waste
	➤ Disagree	➤ Doubt	➤ Desire		
		➤ Think	➤ Wish		
			➤ Hope		
			➤ Appreciate		
			➤ Value		

Examples:

- i. Bread **consists** of flour, yeast, sugar and water.
- ii. John **loves** dogs.
- iii. I am now **fit** to go to my office.
- iv. The situation **depends** on the results.
- v. We all **doubted** his efforts in the beginning.