



Action Verbs

Words that express the action in a sentence.
Tells what someone or something
does(present), did(past), or will do(future).



Examples:

Mary likes chocolate.

John went to the store.



Verb Tense

(regular verbs)

The time the action happened



3 basic verb tenses:

Present – now

Past – before now

Future – after now



Two Kinds of Present Tense

There are two kinds of present tense:

1. right now

is
am } action + verb (ing)
are }

I am writing my story.

He is writing.

They are writing their stories.

2. Happens always or ongoing
action verbs (s)

I watch the news everyday.

She watches the news everyday.



Past Tense Regular Verbs

Regular verbs follow a consistent pattern when we change from present to past tense.



Present → past

Verb → verb + (ed)

Jump → jumped

Talk → talked

Laugh → laughed



Past Tense Irregular Verbs

Irregular verbs have either a spelling change OR they stay the same from present tense to past tense.



present	→	past
eat	→	ate
run	→	ran
go	→	went
cut	→	cut
hit	→	hit
strike	→	struck



Future Tense (verbs)

Three simple forms of future tense:



will + action

can + verb

shall

will run

will walk

will think

can run

can walk

can think

shall run

shall walk

shall think



Verb Phrase

Sometimes the verb is made up of more than one word.



**verb phrase = 1 or more helping verbs +
action verb**

Sally will be running.

The chicken did cross the road.



What is a Sentence?

A sentence must...



- 1. have a subject and a verb**
- 2. Express a complete thought**

Sally ran.

The dog is behaving well today.



Linking Verbs or (State – of – being verbs)

Linking verbs are used to link the subject to a noun or adjective later in a sentence.



is, am, are, was, were, be, been, seem, become, feel, look, taste, appear

Examples:

He is happy

The ducks were alive

Mr. Bush is the President



Subject/ Verb Agreement

The subject and verb must agree



Present tense

Mark eats.

Mark and John eat.

	Singular	Plural
First person	I sing	We wing
Second person	You sing	You sing
Third person	He/she/it sings	They sing

Only third person singular adds an “s”



The Verb “to be”

The verb “to be” is irregular in present and past tense.



	Singular		Plural	
	Present	Past	Present	Past
First person	I am	I was	We are	We were
Second person	You are	You were	You are	You were
Third person	He/she/it is	He/she/it was	They are	They were



Helping Verbs

A verb that combines with an action verb
to make a verb phrase.



Is am are was were

Has have had

Does do did

Be being been

Will would can could shall should

Must might may



Use Questions to Help Find the Subject and Verb in a Sentence



1. Find the subject by asking: “what or who is the sentence about?” (look early in the sentence.)
2. Find the verb by asking: “what is the subject doing?” “is there an action?” if yes, look for helping verbs. If no look for linking verb – “is the subject being?”

1. Who is this sentence about?

The carpenter had been building homes for seven years.

2. What did the carpenter do?

The carpenter had been building homes for seven years.



Participate Form of Verbs

the participle form of verbs can be like this:



has

had + past participle form of the verb

have

For regular verbs → has, have or had + verb(ed)

**For irregular verbs → was, have or had + past
irregular verb (use handout
“an alphabetical list of
irregular verbs.”)**



Verbs With Singular Pronouns as Subjects

The following pronouns are singular when they are used as subjects:



each
either
neither

one
everyone
no one

nobody
anyone
someone
somebody

Singular subjects take verbs that usually have an “s” on the end.

s v
Each jumps

s v
one knows

s v
nobody has



Forms of: Be/Have/Do



Be	Have	do
is	have	do
are	had	does
am	has	did
was	having	doing
were		
be		
being		
been		



Some Words Can Divide the Parts of a Verb

Some words can fall between keeping verbs and the action verb in sentences but these are not part of the verb.



Can not have walked

Must quickly run

Has already gone

Will not go



Verb Conjugation

To conjugate a verb, write all 6 tenses.



Present	Happening now or ongoing	Present perfect	Have + verb (ed) Has + verb (ed)
Past	Before now	Past perfect	Had + verb (ed)
Future	Often now	Future perfect	Will have + verb (ed)

Example: **jump/jumps** **have jumped/has jumped**
 jumped **had jumped**
 will jump **will have jumped**



Words to use With Participle



Have		Has	had
Present	I have climbed		Regular
	I have jumped		Regular
	He has smoked		Regular
	He has forgotten		Irregular
Past	We had walked		Regular
	We had written		Irregular



Regular Action verb Conjugation



Action verb: walk

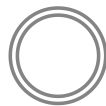
Present	Past	Future
Walk		
Walks		Will, can, shall
Is, am, are	Walked	+
+		Walk
walking		

Action verb: jump

Present	Past	Future
Jump		
Jumps	Jumped	Will, can, shall
Is, am, are jumping		+
		jumping



Irregular Action Verb Conjugation



Action verb: make

Present	Past	Future	Pres. part.	Past part.
Make	Made (spelling changes)	Will, can, shall + Make	Has, have + Made	Had + Made
Makes				
Am, are making				

Action verb: eat

Present	Past	Future	Pres. part.	Past part.
Eat	Ate	Will, can, shall + Eat	Has, have + Eaten	Had + Eaten
Eats				
Am, are + eating				



**Infinitive or
Prepositional
Phrase? (not verbs!)**

Do not confuse infinitives with prepositional phrases.



**Infinitive = to + verb (to jump/
to sit)**

**Prep. Phrase = to _____ noun
(to the store/
to him)**