

Verbs Defined with Examples

Transitive verb - an action verb that is followed by a word that answers the question what? or whom?

Sally **made** the pie (transitive)

Bob **called** Tom. (transitive)

Intransitive verb - an action verb that is not followed by a word that answers the question what? or whom?

Sally **bakes** very well. (intransitive)

Bob **called** for a pizza. (intransitive)

Linking verb - links, or joins, the subject of a sentence with a word that identifies or describes the subject.

The most common: **am, is, are, was, were, will be, has been, and was being.**

Auxiliary or Helping verbs - words that accompany the main verb.

Forms of be: **am, is, are, was, were, being, been**

Forms of have: **has, have, had, having**

Other helping verbs: **can, could, do, does, did, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would**

I **am apologizing** because I **have arrived** so late. **Do** you still **have** time?

I **could have arrived** on time if I **had planned** my day better.

Verbs Tenses

Base Form - the present tense (Exception to the rule 3rd person singular, add -s or -es & the verb *be* is also an exception) Expresses an action that is repeated, ongoing, always true, or an action that is happening now.

The children **ask** for a snack.

Progressive Form - expresses a continuing action. Uses the present participle of the verb with the appropriate tense of the verb *be*.

Present Participle - adds -ing to the base form, requires a helping verb

The children **are asking** for a snack.

Marta **carves** a miniature horse from a bar of soap.

Present Progressive

We **are running**.

Present Perfect tense - used either to express an action that took place at some indefinite time in the past or to express an action that began in the past and continues in the present. Formed with the past participle of the verb and the helping verb *has* or *have*.

We **have met** our new neighbors.

That man **has talked** all day!

Verbs Defined with Examples

Present Perfect Progressive

We **have been running**.

Past - adds -ed or -d to the base form

The children **asked** for a snack.

The bird **stood** watch as the worm **crawled** out of its hole.

Past Participle - adds -ed or -d to the base form, requires a helping verb

The children **have asked** for a snack.

Past Progressive

We **were running**.

Past Perfect tense - used to show that one action in the past began and ended before another action in the past started. Formed with the past participle of the verb and the helping verb had.

We **had eaten** the leftovers before Mom and Dad came home.

She **had** already **memorized** the stanza before I finished reading it.

Past Perfect Progressive

We **had been running**.

Future - used to show an action or condition will take place in the future

Sharon **will total** your bill.

Future Progressive

We **will be running**.

Future Perfect tense - used to show that one action or condition in the future will begin and end before another event in the future starts. Formed with the past participle of the verb and the helping verbs will have.

By tonight I **will have practiced** that piece several times.

I **will have sailed** to the begins Caribbean by the time you get this postcard.

Future Perfect Progressive

We **will have been running**.

Verb Voice

Active voice - when the subject performs the action.

Mr. Carter **played** the piano solo. (active voice)

Passive voice - when the action is performed on the subject.

The piano solo **was played** by Mr. Carter. (passive voice)

Verbs Defined with Examples

Verb Mood

Indicative mood - makes a statement or asks a question.

Ron **told** Sarah the news.

Imperative mood - expresses a command or makes a request.

Tell Sarah the news, Ron.

Subjunctive mood - used mainly in formal English to express a demand, a recommendation, a suggestion, or a statement of necessity. It may also be used to state a condition or a wish that is contrary to fact.

Ace **recommended** that the minutes be accepted.

If he **were** sure of his facts, he would sign the affidavit.

Example: Irregular Verbs

BASE FORM	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
teach	teaching	taught	taught
take	taking	took	taken
freeze	freezing	froze	frozen
sing	singing	sang	sung
become	becoming	became	become
grow	growing	grew	grown
burst	bursting	burst	burst
tear	tearing	tore	torn
write	writing	wrote	written
steal	stealing	stole	stolen
swim	swimming	swam	swum
buy	buying	bought	bought
bite	biting	bit	bitten
draw	drawing	drew	drawn
sleep	sleeping	slept	slept
stand	standing	stood	stood