

VERB ALERT

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW
ABOUT VERBS

WHAT'S A VERB AGAIN?

A word that either
shows action or that
links the subject to
another word.

EXAMPLES OF VERBS THAT SHOW ACTION

leap, laugh,
read, sing,
dance, play....

EXAMPLES OF VERBS THAT LINK SUBJECT TO OTHER WORDS

TO BE VERBS

SYNONYMNS OF
“TO BE” VERBS

CAN YOU NAME THEM?

EXAMPLES OF VERBS THAT LINK SUBJECT TO OTHER WORDS

TO BE VERBS

(is, are, was, were, am, etc.)

EXAMPLES

I **am** happy.

I **am** a teacher.

They **were** together.

SYNONYMNS OF

“TO BE” VERBS

(become, seem, look, appear, smell, taste,
feel, sound, grow, remain)

EXAMPLES

He **looks** fantastic.

She **seems** sleepy.

She **smells** funny.

Note: Different from the active verb:

She **smells** the roses.



Another thing to know
about verbs...

Sometimes they need help.

Main verbs

are often
preceded by one
or more

helping verbs

to show

Time

Condition

Circumstances

- He sings.
- He has sung.
- He has been singing.
- He might have been singing.
- He will have been singing.
- He should have been singing.
- He could have been singing.





Ready?

When is a verb **not** a verb?

ANSWER?

WHEN IT'S A VERBAL!

VERBS CAN ACTUALLY
FUNCTION AS
DIFFERENT
PARTS OF SPEECH

For instance, the infinitive verb phrase
[to + verb]

LOOKS LIKE A VERB

but doesn't necessarily

FUNCTION

as a verb in a sentence.

Verb?



Verb?



She began to understand.



Subject

Verb

Infinitive (to + verb) functioning as
a Direct Object (which is a noun)

“She began **[to understand]**.”

TWO OTHER EXAMPLES

PARTICIPLES AND GERUNDS (-ING WORDS)

look like verbs
but don't always
function as verbs

PARTICIPLE
FUNCTIONING
AS A MODIFIER

Subject

Verb



The flying birds flew.

The word “flying” in this sentence is NOT functioning as a verb but as an adjective, describing the noun “birds.”

GERUND
FUNCTIONING
AS A NOUN

Subject

Verb



I love baking.

The word “baking” in this sentence is NOT functioning as a verb but as a noun, the direct object of the verb “baking.”



TIME TO PRACTICE



end show

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