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# The Verb – Movers and Doers! (Finite & Non-Finite Verbs)



**Hello, Superstars!** It's me EeeBee, your grammar buddy! Today, we're entering the world of verbs—the real action heroes of any sentence! But wait, not all verbs are the same. Some are main stars, others are their helpers. Some do actions, some express possibility, and some don't even change with the subject!



Let's explore these doers and helpers and discover the difference between **Finite** and **Non-Finite Verbs**.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES



- What Finite Verbs are
- Types of Verbs: Main and Auxiliary
- Transitive vs Intransitive Verbs
- Modal Auxiliaries: can, must, should...
- Non-Finite Forms: Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles
- Differences between Finite and Non-Finite Verbs

## LEAD IN



EeeBee is helping two friends act in a play. One says, "I play football." The other says, "To play football is fun."

**Rohan said:** I play football.

**Maya said:** To play football is fun.

Did you notice something? Both sentences have the word play, but one verb is doing the job, and the other is just a name of the action.



I play  
football



To play football  
is fun.



## What is a Finite Verb?

A Finite Verb changes its form according to the subject or tense. It shows the time (Past/Present/Future) and agrees with the subject.

### Examples:

- She runs fast. (Present)
- They ran yesterday. (Past)
- He is reading. (Present Continuous)

It tells us who is doing the action and when.

### Main and Auxiliary Verbs

Type	Role	Examples
Main Verb	Shows the main action	eat, sleep, go, paint
Auxiliary Verb	Helps the main verb (be, do, have)	is playing, has gone, did sing



**Auxiliary verbs** are like helpers that support the main verb by showing Tense, Voice, or Mood.

### Transitive vs Intransitive Verbs

Type	Definition	Examples
Transitive	Needs an object	He reads books.
Intransitive	Doesn't need an object	She sleeps peacefully.

Ask “what?” after the verb. If there's an answer, it's Transitive!

## What are Modals?

Modals are special auxiliary verbs that show ability, permission, advice, necessity, or possibility.

Modal	Modal	Examples
can	ability	I can swim.
should	advice	You should study.
must	necessity	We must wear helmets.
may	permission	May I come in?
might	possibility	It might rain.

Modals are always followed by the base form of the verb.

## What is a Non-Finite Verb?

A **Non-Finite Verb** **does not** change with subject or tense. It cannot be the main verb in a sentence. Instead, it acts like a Noun, Adjective, or Adverb.

There are **three** main types:

### Infinitives – To + Verb

**Examples:** to eat, to play, to read

**Usage:** act as noun or to express purpose

- To read is fun.
- She wants to dance.

### Gerunds – Verb + ing used as a noun

**Examples:** reading, swimming, singing

**Usage:** act like nouns

- Swimming is good for health.
- I enjoy painting.

### Participles – Verb Forms Acting Like Adjectives

Type	Verb Form	Examples
Present Participle	-ing	The crying baby
Past Participle	-ed/-en	A broken window, a written note

Used to form Tenses or Describe Nouns.

### Finite vs Non-Finite Verbs

Feature	Finite Verbs	Non-Finite Verbs
Changes with subject/tense	Yes	No
Can be main verb	Yes	No
Role in sentence	Shows action/time	Acts like noun /adjective
Examples	eats, ran, is going	to go, reading, painted



## PRACTICE ACTIVITIES - LET'S TRY TOGETHER



Skills/Level  
READING & WRITING/A1



### A Identify the Verbs.

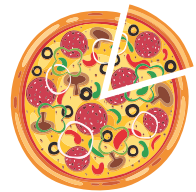
Underline the Finite verbs and circle the Non-Finite verbs.

1. She likes to sing in the shower.
2. Playing chess makes you smarter.
3. He is writing a letter.
4. The painted door was old.
5. We should leave now.



### B Fill in the blanks

1. I want \_\_\_\_\_ (to eat / eating) pizza now.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Swim / Swimming) every morning keeps me active.
3. He must \_\_\_\_\_ (go / going) to the office early.
4. We saw the child \_\_\_\_\_ (cry / crying).
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Painted / Painting) by a famous artist, the portrait was valuable.



### C Classify the Verb

Write F for Finite and NF for Non-Finite

1. To dance is her dream. \_\_\_\_\_
2. He walked to school. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Reading improves your brain. \_\_\_\_\_
4. She can speak French. \_\_\_\_\_
5. We were watching the stars. \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LET'S TALK VERBS!

### ACTIVITY: EXPRESS YOURSELF WITH MODALS



Skills/Level  
SPEAKING/A2



**Goal:** Use modal verbs (can, should, must, may, might) in everyday speech.

**Task:** Each student picks a topic (e.g., school rules, hobbies, health tips) and speaks for 30 seconds using at least two modals.

### Examples:

- “We should recycle waste to protect the planet.”
- “You must wear your ID card at school.”
- “I can play the guitar and sing together!”

**Focus:** Fluency + correct use of modals (finite auxiliary verbs).



## LISTENING FOR FEELINGS



**Skills/Level**  
LISTENING/A1



### Teacher Script (Can be read aloud or played as audio)

“Last Saturday, I visited a science fair. It was amazing to see children working on robots and explaining their ideas confidently. One boy said, 'I want to build a robot that can clean the house.' His friend replied, 'Cleaning is boring, but building things is fun!' I also saw a girl who had created a talking alarm clock. It was ringing loudly, and she said it could wake anyone from sleep!”

#### A. Identify the verbs:

Find one example each from the audio:

- An infinitive: \_\_\_\_\_ (**to build**)
- A gerund: \_\_\_\_\_ (**cleaning**)
- A modal verb: \_\_\_\_\_ (**could**)
- A finite verb in past tense: \_\_\_\_\_ (**visited / saw / said**)



#### Follow-Up Speaking Task:

“What kind of robot would you like to make? Use an **Infinitive** or **Gerund** in your answer.”

#### Example:

- “I want to invent a robot that does homework.”
- “Inventing cool gadgets is my dream.”

## MY ACTIVITY CORNER:

**Verb Roles!** Draw or write a mini comic strip with 3 actions:

- One sentence with a finite verb
- One with a modal auxiliary
- One with a gerund

**Example:**

- Panel 1: “She runs fast.”
- Panel 2: “She can win the race.”
- Panel 3: “Running makes her happy.”

**ASSESSMENT & REVIEW – WHAT DID WE LEARN?**



Topic	Key Learning
Finite Verbs	Change with tense or subject
Main vs Auxiliary	Show action vs support
Transitive vs Intransitive	With or without objects
Modals	Can, must, should, etc.
Infinitives	To + Verb
Gerunds	Verb + ing as noun
Participles	Verb forms used as adjectives
Finite vs Non-Finite	Compare and contrast



## SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

How well did you learn? Colour the Smiley face that shows how you feel.



I can do it well !



Yes



A bit unsure



Not yet

A. Identify finite and non-finite verbs



B. Use infinitives and gerunds correctly



C. Tell the difference between main and auxiliary verbs



D. Use modals in sentences



E. Recognize participles and their role



## EEEBEE INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing



Grammar



Vocabulary

WRITE YOUR SCORE

Practice your LSRW Skills



on Communication Lab



Produced By  
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The Topper's  
Edge Podcast

