

Verbs

Definition:

- ❖ A verb is a word that expresses an action, occurrence, or state of being.
- ❖ Verbs are essential in sentences as they indicate what the subject is doing or what is happening to the subject.
- ❖ Understanding verbs is crucial for constructing meaningful and grammatically correct sentences.

Types of Verbs

1. Action Verbs:

Express physical or mental actions.

Examples: run, jump, think, believe

Example in a sentence: She runs every morning.

2. Linking Verbs:

Connect the subject with a subject complement that describes or identifies the subject. They do not show action.

Examples:

am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, seem, become, appear

Example in a sentence: She is a teacher.

3. Helping (Auxiliary) Verbs:

Used with main verbs to create verb phrases that indicate tense, mood, or voice.

Examples:

am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, have, has, had, do, does, did, can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, must

Example in a sentence: She has finished her homework.

4. Modal Verbs:

A type of auxiliary verb that expresses necessity, possibility, permission, or ability.

Examples:

can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, must

Example in a sentence: She can speak three languages.

Forms of Verbs

1. Base Form:

The basic form of a verb without any endings.

Examples:

run, eat, think

2. Past Form:

The form of the verb used to indicate actions that happened in the past.

Regular Verbs: add “ed” to the base form (e.g. walk → walked)

Irregular Verbs: change form in various ways (e.g. go → went)

3. Past Participle:

Often used with helping verbs to form perfect tenses.

Regular Verbs: same as the past form (e.g., walked)

Irregular Verbs: vary (e.g., go → gone)

4. Present Participle/Gerund:

The “ing” form of the verb, used for continuous tenses or as a noun.

Example: running, eating, thinking

Verb Tenses

- ❖ Verb tenses indicate the time of the action or state of being.
- ❖ There are three main tenses, each with four aspects, making a total of twelve tenses.

1. Present Tense:

- ❖ **Simple Present:** I walk.
- ❖ **Present Continuous:** I am walking.
- ❖ **Present Perfect:** I have walked.
- ❖ **Present Perfect Continuous:** I have been walking.

2. Past Tense:

- ❖ **Simple Past:** I walked.
- ❖ **Past Continuous:** I was walking.
- ❖ **Past Perfect:** I had walked.
- ❖ **Past Perfect Continuous:** I had been walking.

3. Future Tense:

- ❖ **Simple Future:** I will walk.
- ❖ **Future Continuous:** I will be walking.
- ❖ **Future Perfect:** I will have walked.
- ❖ **Future Perfect Continuous:** I will have been walking.

Functions of Verbs in Sentences

1. Transitive Verbs:

Require a direct object to complete their meaning.

Examples:

She bought a car. (Car is the direct object)

2. Intransitive Verbs:

Do not require a direct object to complete their meaning.

Examples:

He slept.

3. Ditransitive Verbs:

Can take two objects, a direct object and an indirect object.

Example:

She gave him a gift. (Gift is the direct object, and him is the indirect object)

Examples in Sentences

1. Action Verb:

He writes letters every day.

2. Linking Verb:

The sky seems cloudy.

3. Helping Verb:

She is reading a book.

4. Modal Verb:

You should study for the test.

Importance of Verbs

❖ Verbs are essential in communication as they:

Indicate actions, occurrences, or states of being.

Provide information about the timing of actions or events.

Connect the subject to additional information in the sentence.

Help express necessity, possibility, permission, or ability.