The Book of Grammar Lesson Eight

Mr. McBride Sophomore Honors English

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By the end of this lesson you should know:

- What a verb is
 - \rightarrow Action verbs
 - →Linking verbs
- What a verb phrase is
- The five basic verb forms: *infinitive*, *present*, *present participle*, *past*, and *past participle*

What is the definition of a verb?

• A *verb* is a word that expresses action or helps to make a statement.



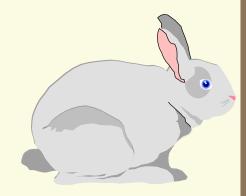
Action Verbs

- An action verb expresses an action. Just remember that such things as thinking and believing are actions, and you will have no trouble recognizing action verbs:
 - →The rabbit *knew* he could win the race.
 - →The rabbit *stopped* before the finish line.

Linking Verbs

• Linking verbs are also called *state-of-being* verbs. They help to make a statement by acting as a link between two words. In <u>most</u> cases, linking verbs are a form of *to be*.

→The rabbit *was* overconfident.



Other Common Linking Verbs

Some verbs that are not forms of *to be* can act as linking verbs as well. The following are often, but not always, linking verbs.

appear

become

feel

grow

look

remain

seem

smell

sound

stay

taste

Look as a linking and action verb

- Note the subtle difference between the use of *look* in the following sentences:
 - →John looked bored during the grammar lesson.
 - →John looked out the window during the grammar lesson.
- In which sentence is *look* an action verb? In which sentence is *look* a linking verb?

More example of linking verbs...

- You <u>look</u> tired.
- Arnold <u>seemed</u> angry.
- Jane <u>appeared</u> excited.
- Henry <u>feels</u> good.
- He <u>became</u> overconfident.
- It <u>sounded</u> enjoyable.

The Verb Phrase

- A verb frequently has one or more helping verbs, also called auxiliary verbs. The verb and its helping verbs work together as a unit called a *verb phrase*.
- Commonly used helping verbs are: to be (in all its forms), will, shall, has, have, had, can, could, may, might, must, ought, should, would, do, does, did.

Examples of the verb phrase...

- The boys had been playing football.
- A large ship was lying in the harbor.
- Very few people <u>would enjoy</u> such a long journey.
- Joan is relieved when she hears the news.
- I <u>did clean</u> the carburetor.
- Will you wash the car tomorrow?

There are five basic forms of a verb:

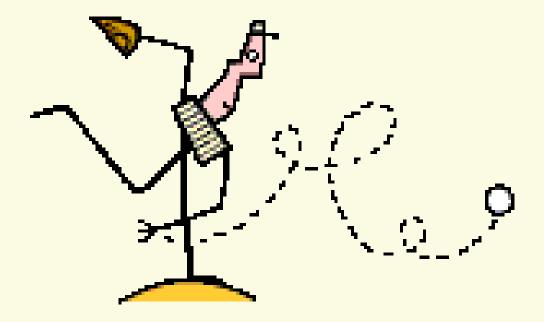
- The five forms are the *infinitive*, the *present*, the *past*, the *present participle*, and the *past participle*. The infinitive and participle forms are not technically verbs, but *verbals*.
 - →The verb *to swim*, for example has these five forms: *to swim* (infinitive), *swim* (present), *swam* (past), *swimming* (present participle), and *swum* (past participle).

Okay, but what is a participle?

- A participle has the characteristics of both a verb and an adjective. It is a verbal form that has the function of an adjective and at the same time shows such verbal features as tense and voice and the capacity to take an object.
 - →If you need a helping verb to use a verb form in a sentence it is a *participle*. Try to use <u>swimming</u> or <u>swum</u> as a verb in a sentence without a helping verb.

Irregular Verb Forms

 Irregular verb forms don't follow any set pattern in creating the present, past, and past participle forms.



Some common irregular verb forms:

	Present	Present Participle	Past	Past Participle
	Swim	Swimming	Swam	Swum
	Go	Going	Went	Gone
,	See	Seeing	Saw	Seen
	Begin	Beginning	Began	Begun
•	Blow	Blowing	Blew	Blown
•	Drink	Drinking	Drank	Drunk
	Fall	Falling	Fell	Fallen
	Give	Giving	Gave	Given
)	Ring	Ringing	Rang	Rung

Regular Verb Forms

- With regular verbs, the past participle is formed by the addition of *ed*, just like the past form:
 - →walk, walking, walked, (have) walked
- One can only determine whether or not a word ending in *ed* is a participle in the context of the sentence.
 - →They walked home. *past tense*
 - →They have walked home from the restaurant. *past participle*

By the end of this lesson you should know:

- What a verb is
 - →Action verbs
 - →Linking verbs
- What a verb phrase is
- The five basic verb forms: *infinitive*, *present*, *present participle*, *past*, and *past participle*

The end of Lesson Eight

Quiz Monday, May 6