

# Types Of Verbs

A verb is a "doing" word. In other words, a verb is a word that tells us about an action, the existence of something, or an occurrence. A verb is the main word in a sentence. No sentence can be complete without a verb.

A verb can express:

- A physical action (e.g., to swim, to write, to climb).
- A mental action (e.g., to think, to guess, to consider).
- A state of being (e.g., to be, to exist, to appear).

The following are the different types of verbs:

## 1 Action verbs

These verbs express specific actions. They can express all types of actions and not just physical actions. Examples: run, jump, think, do, go, stand, smile, listen

### Examples:

*I **ran** faster than Julie.*  
*He **paints** well.*  
*She **thinks** about work all day.*

## 2 Transitive verbs

Transitive verbs express doable activities. They always transfer their effects on something or someone. In a sentence with a transitive verb, someone or something receives the action of the verb. The one that receives the action is known as the **object of the verb**. Every sentence with a transitive verb needs an object to complete its meaning.

### Examples:

*Gary **ate** the cookies. (Gary- subject, ate-verb, cookies - direct object)*

## 3 Intransitive verbs

Intransitive verbs are action verbs that do not take an object. They do not transfer their effect on any other object or person. They make sense without transferring their action to anything.

### Examples:

*The dog is **running**.*  
*The baby is **sleeping**.*

## 4 Helping verbs or auxiliary verbs

An **auxiliary verb** extends the main verb by helping to show time, tense, and possibility. The main auxiliary verbs are to be, to have, and to do, and their different forms are as follows:

- 1 To be: am, is, are, was, were, being, been, will be
- 2 To have: has, have, had, having, will have
- 3 To do: does, do, did, will do

### Examples:

- *She was waiting to go back home (was - auxiliary verb, waiting - main verb)*
- *You have eaten enough candies (have - auxiliary verb, eaten - the main verb)*
- *You have been crying all night (have been - auxiliary verb, crying - the main verb)*
- *Did you see the movie? (did - auxiliary verb, see - the main verb)*
- *The internet connection will be disconnected tomorrow (will be - auxiliary verb, disconnected - the main verb)*

## 5 State of being verbs or linking verbs

A **linking verb** describes a condition or situation that exists. It serves as a connecting word between the subject and the rest of the sentence but does not express any action directly. The commonly used linking verbs are am, is, are, was, were, has been, are being, might be, to become, to seem, etc.

One way of understanding linking verbs is that you can always replace the verb with the = sign. Example: "He is (=) kind"

Also, a linking verb tells us what the subject is, not what the subject is doing.

### Examples:

- *I **am** a student. I = student*
- *We **are** circus performers. We = circus performers*
- *The boy **seems** nice. The boy = nice*

Now that you have learned about the different types of verbs, in each sentence given below, circle the verb, and mention the type of verb in the provided space.

1 She Painted a pretty portrait.

.....  
Action Verb

6 The pendulum oscillates.

.....

2 Do your homework.

.....

7 I might not drive home.

.....

3 She smiled at the cute puppy.

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8 Has Jenny recited her last poem?

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4 They sold the tickets.

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9 We are from NewYork.

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5 The cow is grazing.

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10 He looks cool.

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