

## LESSON 2: VERBS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### VERBS

A verb is a word used to:

- assert what a person or thing *does* or *is*,
  - *ask* what a person *does* or *is*
  - *tell* another person to *do* or *be* something
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#### Exercise A:

The naming (noun) parts of the sentences below are provided. Make up some action verbs which assert (or express) what the following things do.

1. The student \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The wind \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The desk \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The clock \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The bus \_\_\_\_\_.

6. The dentist \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Airplanes \_\_\_\_\_.

8. The tree \_\_\_\_\_.

9. The class \_\_\_\_\_.

10. The baby \_\_\_\_\_.

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### AUXILIARIES OR HELPING VERBS

A word that helps a verb to assert is an **auxiliary** or **helping verb**.

When a group of words is used as a verb, it is called a **verb phrase**. The whole phrase is the verb.

Helping verbs:

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

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### Exercise B:

Fill in each of the blanks with verb phrase.

1. Trees \_\_\_\_\_ in forests.
2. The grapes \_\_\_\_\_ ripe.
3. David \_\_\_\_\_ a lion and a bear.
4. The small boy \_\_\_\_\_ the window.
5. The artist \_\_\_\_\_ a picture.

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### LINKING VERBS

A verb that is used to make an assertion by joining two words is called a **linking verb**.

Examples:

1. The man *is* my father. (The verb *is* links *man* and *father*)
2. The bread *smells* delicious. The verb *smells* links *bread* and *delicious*)
3. I *feel* sad about your loss. (The verb *feel* links *I* and *sad*)
4. The day *became* rainy. (The verb *became* links *day* and *rainy*)

One way to check if a verb is a linking verb is to substitute the word *is* or an equal sign (=) for the verb. If the meaning of the sentence is unchanged, the verb is a linking verb.

Examples:

1. Her brother *seems* lonely. (brother = lonely)
2. The team *remained* state champions for three years. (team = state champions)
3. Robert *drove* the car. (Robert  $\neq$  car)

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### Exercise D:

Underline the linking verbs and circle the helping verbs in the following sentences.

1. The caterpillar will soon become a moth.
2. It seems a pity.
3. This will be a stormy night.
4. Is this an army?
5. You must be a man!