

- There are three kinds of verbs:

Action verbs tell what the subject is doing.

Jan **mowed** the lawn.
Harold **drives** the school bus.

Linking verbs link a subject to a noun or an adjective that names or describes it.

The taxi **is** yellow with black checks.
That dinner **looks** delicious.

A diagram with two ovals. The top oval contains the word 'is' and the bottom oval contains the word 'looks'. Arrows point from the subjects 'The taxi' and 'That dinner' to their respective linking verbs. Another arrow points from the linking verb 'is' to the description 'yellow with black checks', and a third arrow points from 'looks' to 'delicious'.

Helping verbs come before the main verb. Helping verbs help state the action or show time.

Kim **has** passed everyone in the race.
Will **had been** practicing all week.
Eggs **are** decorated for Easter.

- The verb in a sentence must agree in number with the subject.

If the subject is singular, the verb must be singular.

*Tommy **was waiting** to kick the ball.*

If the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.

*All the **girls were happy** to see me.*

Underline any helping verbs.

1. Michelle came to my house for dinner.
2. The horse galloped across the field.
3. Jamal has gone to visit his grandparents in Illinois.
4. They have seen rainbows in the sky many times.
5. Sergio saw a strange animal in his backyard.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Lee have traveled to many countries around the world.
7. Everyone in class went to science camp.
8. The workers have come to paint the house.

Decide whether the underlined verb in each sentence below is an action, a linking, or a helping verb. Write your responses on the lines provided.

Verb Type

Americans celebrate many exciting holidays.

New Year's Day is the first major holiday of the year.

Valentine's Day is celebrated in February.

People wear green on St. Patrick's Day.

Children have hunted for eggs on Easter for centuries.

May Day is the first day of May.

England had been celebrating Mother's Day for years before the United States began to do so in 1914.

Decide whether the underlined verb in each sentence below is an action, a linking, or a helping verb. Write your responses on the lines provided.

Verb Type

Memorial Day was first observed in 1868.

Fathers are honored on Father's Day.

July fourth is the birth date of our nation.

Families watch fireworks on the Fourth of July.

People dress in costumes on Halloween.

Turkey is the traditional food of Thanksgiving.

People like to give and receive presents on Christmas.
