

WHAT IS A VERB?

A **VERB** EXPRESSES AN ACTION OR STATE OF BEING. VERBS ARE NECESSARY TO FORM STATEMENTS.

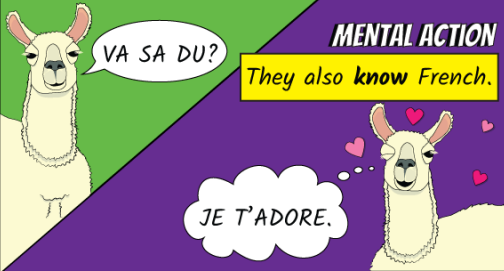
The sheep **speak** Spanish.



ACTIONS CAN BE PHYSICAL OR MENTAL.

PHYSICAL ACTION

Llamas **speak** Swedish.



MENTAL ACTION

They also **know** French.

VERBS ALSO EXPRESS TIME — PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE — BY USING TENSE FORMS.

PRESENT TENSE

The sheep **order** pizza.

PAST TENSE

The sheep **ordered** pizza.

FUTURE TENSE

The sheep **will order** pizza.

CIRCLE THE VERBS THAT APPEAR IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES.

Popular mountains include Mount Everest, Denali, and Pikes Peak. Hikers climb mountains for many reasons. Some improve their physical fitness. Others learn about the environment. No matter the reason, hikers practice patience and persistence when they scale any mountain range.

WHAT IS A LINKING VERB?

A **LINKING VERB** LINKS THE SUBJECT OF A SENTENCE (USUALLY A NOUN OR PRONOUN) WITH A WORD OR PHRASE THAT IDENTIFIES OR DESCRIBES THE SUBJECT.

UNLIKE ACTION VERBS, LINKING VERBS DO NOT EXPRESS AN ACTION.

THE VERB **TO BE** IN ALL ITS FORMS IS THE MOST COMMON LINKING VERB.



THE 8 WORDS YOU NEED TO CONJUGATE **TO BE**:

PRESENT TENSE:
AM, IS, ARE

PAST TENSE:
WAS, WERE

PAST PARTICIPLE:
BEEN

PRESENT PARTICIPLE:
BEING

WRITE FIVE SENTENCES ABOUT YOUR DAY. USE A DIFFERENT FORM OF **TO BE** IN EACH SENTENCE.

I **AM** THE FRIENDLIEST BEAR IN THE FOREST.

CAN I GIVE YOU A HUG?



UNICORNS **ARE** THE SLEPIEST MAGICAL CREATURES.



I **WAS** A PROLIFIC PLAYWRIGHT.

MY PLAYS **HAVE BEEN** POPULAR FOR CENTURIES!



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

I **am** the friendliest bear in the forest.

AM ISN'T SOMETHING THIS BEAR, OR ANYONE, CAN DO. IT CONNECTS THE SUBJECT, I (THE BEAR), TO THE INFORMATION THAT HE ISN'T DANGEROUS AND JUST WANTS A HUG.

HUGGING REAL BEARS IS A TERRIBLE IDEA.



Unicorns **are** the sleepest magical creatures.

NO ONE CAN **ARE** SOMETHING, AND THAT INCLUDES UNICORNS. **ARE** SIMPLY CONNECTS THE SUBJECT, UNICORNS, TO THE INFORMATION THAT THEY WOULD BE VOTED "MOST LIKELY TO TAKE A NAP."



I **wrote** 37 plays and 154 sonnets.

I **was** a prolific playwright.

WAS CONNECTS THE SUBJECT WITH THE INFORMATION THAT HE WROTE MANY PLAYS.



My plays **have been** popular for centuries!

HAVE BEEN IS THE PRESENT PERFECT FORM OF **TO BE**; HERE IT CONNECTS THE SUBJECT, [SHAKESPEARE'S] PLAYS, TO THE INFORMATION THAT THEY ARE TIMELESS.

WHILE THE FORMS OF **TO BE** ARE ALWAYS LINKING VERBS, THERE ARE VERBS THAT ARE SOMETIMES LINKING VERBS AND SOMETIMES ACTION VERBS.

COMMON LINKING VERBS

appear look seem stay
become grow smell taste
feel remain sound

HOW TO TELL IF IT'S LINKING OR ACTION:

ASK YOURSELF THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

WILL THE SENTENCE STILL MAKE SENSE IF I REPLACE THE VERB WITH **AM**, **IS**, OR **ARE**?

IF THE ANSWER IS YES:

IT'S A LINKING VERB!

The sheep **feel** sleepy after they feast on pizza.

THE SHEEP **ARE** SLEEPY? YES, THAT MAKES SENSE! THIS IS A LINKING VERB.



IF THE ANSWER IS NO:

IT'S AN ACTION VERB!

Marcel, the eldest sheep, **felt** a piece of pepperoni stuck between his teeth.

MARCEL **IS** A PIECE OF PEPPERONI? NOPE! THIS IS AN ACTION VERB.



EACH SENTENCE BELOW USES THE VERB LOOKS. IDENTIFY WHICH IS LINKING AND WHICH IS ACTION.

Sasquatch **looks** happiest when he's tending his garden.

Sasquatch **looks** out his window every morning to watch the sunrise.