

# **Types of Verbs**

**ACTION verbs** – these verbs show action or movement

- Some ACTION verbs **show physical action.**

*The surfer rode the giant wave to shore.*

- Some ACTION verbs **show mental action.**

*The quarterback forgot the new play.*

- Some ACTION verbs **show ownership.**

*Nick has a new backpack.*

## **To find an ACTION VERB.....**

**Find the SUBJECT of the sentence and ask.....**

**“WHAT IS THE SUBJECT DOING?”**

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**LINKING verbs** – these verbs connect the subject of the verb to additional information about the subject.

*George is a senior in high school.*

**The LINKING verb “is” connects the subject, George, to more information about him.**

*The English test seems easy after many hours of studying.*

**The LINKING verb “seems” connects the subject, English test, to more information about it.**

## **Not sure if the verb is a LINKING verb? Ask yourself.....**

**“DOES THE VERB LEAD TO MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUBJECT?”**

**HELPING verbs** - are necessary for the grammatical structure of a sentence, but they do not tell us very much alone.

- We usually use helping verbs with main verbs.
- They "help" the main verb.

**Here is a list of Helping Verbs:**

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

## **When Identifying VERB PHRASES.....**

**REMEMBER:** Some words often interrupt a verb phrase.

**These "interruptions" are NOT part of the verb phrase.**

**Ex:** The car **had** almost **stopped** in time.

↑  
\_\_\_\_\_ The verb phrase is "**had....stopped**".

The word "almost" is the interruption.

**Ex:** The plane **is** not **flying** to Boston.

↑  
\_\_\_\_\_ The verb phrase is "**is....flying**".

The word "not" is the interruption.

**Ex:** The man **couldn't** **write** another word.

↑  
\_\_\_\_\_ The verb phrase is "**could....write**".

The "n't" represents "not".

**To find the VERB PHRASE in a QUESTION....**

**Change the question to a statement.**

**Ex:** *Have you taken a picture of the flowers?*

**Change the question to.....**

You have taken a picture of the flower.

The verb phrase is "have taken".