

Name _____ Date _____

Lesson
4

Verbs

Reteaching

A **verb** is a word used to express an action, a condition, or a state of being.

An **action verb** expresses a physical or mental action. An action verb that appears with a direct object (a person or thing that receives the action of the verb) is called a **transitive verb**. An action verb without a direct object is an **intransitive verb**.

A **linking verb** links the subject of a sentence to a word in the predicate. Some linking verbs are forms of *be*, such as *am*, *is*, *was*, and *were*. Others, such as *appear*, *become*, *feel*, *look*, *remain*, *sound*, and *taste*, express conditions. Some verbs can be either action or linking verbs.

Auxiliary verbs, also called **helping verbs**, are combined with verbs to form **verb phrases**, such as *would have been climbing*. Some common auxiliary verbs are forms of *be* and *had*, *do*, *might*, *would*, *will*, *must*, *could*, and *would*.

A. Identifying Verbs

Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence. In the space above each verb, write **A** if it is an action verb, **L** if it is a linking verb, or **AUX** if it is an auxiliary verb.

1. Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay climbed Mount Everest in 1953.
2. Hillary had been a professional beekeeper.
3. His fellow climber, Norgay, was a Sherpa from Nepal.
4. Tibetans call Mount Everest "The Goddess Mother of the World."
5. The mountain was named after Sir George Everest, a British surveyor.
6. Mount Everest straddles the border between Nepal and Tibet.
7. Everest towers above every other mountain on the earth.
8. Both Hillary and Norgay used oxygen tanks in the thin mountain air.
9. They could rise at a rate of only one foot per minute.
10. The climbers placed two items at the summit: a gift of chocolate to the Buddhist gods and a crucifix.

B. Identifying Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence. If the verb has a direct object, underline it twice. On the line, write **T** for a transitive verb and **I** for an intransitive verb.

1. The summit loomed in the distance. _____
2. Many artists find inspiration in mountains. _____
3. The mountain casts its shadow over the sleepy town. _____
4. Even the mightiest mountain will erode over time. _____
5. The mountain goat scrambled up the slope. _____

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Verbs

More Practice

CHAPTER 1

A. Identifying Verbs

Underline each verb once. If the verb has a direct object, underline the direct object twice. On the line, write **T** for transitive and **I** for intransitive.

1. The tall building swayed slightly in the strong wind. _____
2. The caterpillar crawled slowly across the road. _____
3. The principal distributed attendance prizes at the awards ceremony. _____
4. Who knows the solution to the problem? _____
5. The audience applauded loudly at the end of the play. _____
6. Acid rain caused the deterioration of the outdoor statuary. _____
7. Not one student answered the question correctly. _____
8. The circus train arrived in town early in the morning. _____
9. The shark swam silently, with unblinking eyes. _____
10. The counselor called three students to her office. _____

B. Using Action and Linking Verbs

Complete each of the following sentences with an appropriate action or linking verb. Then, on the line to the right, identify each verb you have used by writing **A** for action or **L** for linking.

1. Mountain climbers _____ carefully for their trips. _____
2. The view from the summit _____ very beautiful. _____
3. Mountain climbing _____ a very dangerous sport. _____
4. Edmund Hillary _____ to the top of Mount Everest. _____
5. The climbers _____ the peak in late morning. _____
6. Very few people _____ such a trek. _____
7. K2 _____ the second highest mountain in the world. _____
8. Cindy _____ of climbing a cliff on every continent. _____
9. For such a quiet guy, John _____ very daring on a climb. _____
10. Dangerous icefalls _____ a menacing threat. _____
11. Sherpas _____ in Tibet and Nepal. _____
12. In 1954, an Italian expedition _____ K2. _____

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Application

Lesson 4

Verbs

A. Writing with Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

Use a form of each of the verbs listed below in two sentences, first as an intransitive verb and then as a transitive verb.

EXAMPLE move (intransitive) *That dancer moves gracefully.*
(transitive) *Move that chair out of the way.*

CHAPTER 1

1. read: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

2. play: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

3. dance: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

4. see: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

5. grow: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

6. eat: (intransitive) _____
(transitive) _____

B. Proofreading

The writer of this paragraph was careless and omitted many verbs. Wherever a verb is missing, insert this proofreading symbol ^ and write an action verb, a linking verb, or an auxiliary verb above it.

The Rocky Mountains run from Alaska to New Mexico. The crest of the mountain range forms the Continental Divide, which separates streams that run to the east from streams that to the west. These streams the beginnings of many major rivers. The Rockies presented an obstacle to 19th-century pioneers. The travelers faced treacherous conditions on mountain passes. Some pioneers the highest mountains, traveling around them on the Santa Fe Trail, because they feared the dangerous mountain terrain. Today, in contrast, many people to the Rockies to enjoy winter sports. The Rockies an exciting tourist destination, but they us even now with their size and strength.