

VERB OVERVIEW

VERB FEATURES

Voice – Flow of Action

Active: The girl **eats** apples.

Passive: The apples **were eaten**.

Aspect – Kind of Action

Simple: I eat or I ate.

Perfect: I have eaten.

Progressive: I am or I was eating.

Tense – Timeline of Action

Present: I eat.

Past: I ate.

Future: I will eat.

Present Perfect: I have eaten.

Past Perfect: I had eaten.

Future Perfect: I will have eaten.

Present Progressive: I am eating.

Past Progressive: I was eating.

Future Progressive: I will be eating.

Present Perfect Progressive: I have been eating.

Past Perfect Progressive: I had been eating.

Future Perfect Progressive: I will have been eating.

Mood/Mode – Relevance or Urgency of Action

Indicative: I **help** my sister.

Imperative: **Help** me!

Subjunctive:

Present: It is crucial **that** you **help** me.

Past/Imperfect/Conditional: I **would help** him **if I were** you.

VERB TYPES

Regular

Verbs whose **simple past** and **past participles** are formed by adding **-ed** to the end of the root. For example, work (root), worked (simple past) and worked (past participle).

Irregular

Verbs whose **simple past** and **past participles** are formed by means **other than** adding an **-ed**. For example, eat, ate and eaten. (REFER TO LIST OF IRREGULAR VERBS).

Transitive

Verbs that require a direct object

He **gave** blood.

Intransitive

Verbs that do not require a direct object

They **studied** diligently.

Linking

Verbs that join subjects with subject complements

She **is** a genius.

He **was** brilliant.

VERB HELPERS (Auxiliary Words)

Have

Had

Has

Will

Was

Were

Would

Could

Should

Can

Shall

May

Might

Be

Been

VERBALS

Verbs used as nouns, adjectives and/or adverbs

Gerund

Noun form as in “They felt the **rocking** of the boat.”

Participle

Adjective form as in “The **celebrated** man....”

Infinitive

Raw form, as in “**To eat**...,” which may be a noun, adjective or adverb, depending on the sentence.

I want **to eat**. (noun)

I’m about **to eat**. (adjective)

We must wait **to eat**. (adverb)