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Verb to be exercises pdf

Back to Previous Page [PDF-239.21 KB] When you begin teaching absolute beginners it is important to use gestures, pointing and what is often called "modeling". You can begin teaching subject pronouns and also introduce the verb 'to be' at the same time with this simple exercise. Teacher: Hi, I am Ken. (Point at yourself) Teacher: Hi, I am Ken. (Repeat stressing each word) Teacher: (Point to each student and have them repeat 'I am...') Teacher: I am Ken. He (stress 'he') is ... (Point at a student) Student(s): Paolo (Student(s) give that student's name) Teacher: I am Ken. (Point at the student again and then circle your finger in the air indicating 'everybody') Student(s): He is Paolo. Teacher: I am Ken. She (stress 'she') is ... (Point at a student) Student(s): She is Ilana. (If students make a mistake and say 'he' instead of 'she', point to your ear and repeat the sentence stressing 'she') Teacher: (Point at different students and repeat a number of times) Teacher: I am Ken. Is He Ken? No, He is Paolo. (Use modeling here - ask yourself the questions) Teacher: Is he Paolo? Yes, He is Paolo. Teacher: Is He Greg? (Point to various students eliciting a yes or no response) Student(s): Yes, He is Paolo, No, She is Jennifer, etc. Teacher: (Point from one student to the next indicating that he/she should ask a question) Student 1: Is he Greg? Student 2: No, He is Peter. OR Yes, He is Greg. Teacher: (Continue around the room) These three review exercises will give you practice in applying the rules of subject-verb agreement. After you have completed each exercise, compare your responses with the answers. For each pair of sentences below, write out the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Keep to the present tense, and be guided four tips for agreement and three special cases. 1. Do you know how to play bocce? The game (do) not require any special athletic abilities. 2. There is a new bocce league at the recreational center. There (be) several teams in the league.3. I have a new set of bocce balls. My friend (have) a new pallino ball.4. Bocce is a game for people of all ages. I (be) going to show you how to play.5. The players take turns rolling a ball down the court. Each of the players [take] one ball and aims for the pallino.6. We try to get our balls as close to the pallino as possible. Rick often (try) to bounce his ball off the side of the court.7. Nobody enjoys playing bocce more than I do. Everybody who plays bocce (enjoy) the game.8. There are four players on each team. There (be) a tournament at the end of the season.9. The winners of the tournament carry home a trophy. Everyone (carry) home good memories.10. I am ready to play a game now. You and your friends (be) welcome to join us. For each pair of sentences below, write out the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Keep to the present tense, and be guided by our four tips for agreement and our three special cases. 1. Both candidates oppose increased defense spending. Neither of the two candidates (oppose) the war in Iraq. 2. Not one of these cell phones belongs to me. One of the phones (belong) to Merdine. 3. Most students take all of their classes in the morning. Nobody (take) classes after 2:00. 4. One of my hobbies is collecting shopping bags. My hobbies (be) unusual. 5. Gus and Merdine want a trial separation. Neither one (want) to move out of the apartment. 6. Neither of the players admits that they made an error. Both players (admit) that somebody made a mistake. 7. Both the manager and the assistant have been fired. Neither the manager nor the assistant (have) been notified. 8. Where is your little brother? Several pages from my journal (be) missing. 9. Professor Legree often goes for long walks in the rain. The lights in his house (go) on at midnight. 10. The students in the back of the room play poker during breaks. The student who sits next to the refreshments (play) solitaire. In the following paragraph, identify the six errors in subject-verb agreement. According to legend, Santa Claus is a fat old man who visits every house on our planet in about eight hours on one of the coldest nights of the year. Santa, as everybody knows, stop for a glass of milk and a cookie at each house along the route. He prefer to work unnoticed, so he wears a luminous red suit and travels with a pack of bell-jangling reindeer. For reasons that most people does not understand, this jolly old man enters each house not by the front door but through the chimney (whether you has a chimney or not). He customarily gives generously to children in wealthy families, and he usually remind poorer children that it's the thought that counts. Santa Claus is one of the earliest beliefs that parents try to instill in their children. After this absurdity, it's a wonder that any child ever believe in anything again. (1) does; (2) are; (3) has; (4) am; (5) takes; (6) tries; (7) enjoys; (8) is; (9) carries; (10) are. (1) opposes; (2) belongs; (3) takes; (4) are; (5) wants; (6) admit; (7) has; (8) are; (9) go; (10) plays. (1) Change "stop for a glass" to "stops for a glass"; (2) change "prefer to work" to "prefers to work"; (3) change "people does not understand" to "people do not understand"; (4) change "you has a chimney" to "you have a chimney"; (5) change "remind poorer children" to "reminds poorer children"; (6) change "child ever believe" to "child ever believes." This hotel pays homage to Boston's unique musical history—and its proximity to Fenway doesn't hurt.Courtesy The Verb HotelPhotosPowered By: ExpediamentitiesGive us your first impression. The lobby at the Verb feels less like a hotel and more like a recording studio. The check-in desk is covered with faux sound-absorbing upholstery, the walls are lined with vintage music posters, and a black-and-white floor stands in graphic contrast against cerulean walls and a banana-yellow couch. It's as if Almost Famous took place in a boutique hotel, and the sense of fun is immediately apparent. Is the crowd accordingly cool? Mostly. They're hipsters and music lovers, but also Red Sox megafans aiming to sleep as close as possible, physically, to Fenway Park. How are the rooms? Originally a 1959 motor inn, the Verb is a beautifully restored hotel that pays homage to the building's funky past while maintaining contemporary finishes and comforts. Pool view rooms overlook the sundeck out back, and the noise from Fenway is more or less muffled. How about the little things, like the mini bar, or shower goodies? There are tons of little touches here—original multicolored glass windows, record players, vintage posters, mid-century furniture, and C.O. Bigelow toiletries. What's the food situation? The ground-floor restaurant is Hojoko, a lively Japanese izakaya from the team behind O-Ya. There's no room service. Tell us: Was there any staff member who really impressed you? The bartender at Hojoko will keep your glass full and impart all the good neighborhood gossip. Anything else we should know in advance? There's no gym on site, but guests have complimentary access to a nearby Boston Sports Club. In summer, the outdoor, heated saltwater pool is the area's hippest place to lay out with a mai tai while listening to the roar from Fenway across the street.All listings featured on Condé Nast Traveler are independently selected by our editors. If you book something through our links, we may earn an affiliate commission.Powered By: Expedi Vivid verbs are descriptive action words that are so vibrant and dramatic that they help a reader or listener visualize the word, including "swoop," "plunge," "pierce," "guffaw" and "crackle." They tend to be more interesting and specific than commonly used verbs. Vivid verbs can describe the actions of sounds, such as "crash" and "rustle"; the actions of smells, such as "reek," "penetrate" and "permeate," and of movement, including "lumber," "scamper," "waddle," "career" and "canter." The frequently used verb "walk," for instance, can be replaced by the more vivid, appealing verbs "amble," "lurch," "peregrinate," "plod" and "transverse." Likewise, the overly used verb "went" can be changed to "skeddaddled," "capered," "loped" and "ascended." A way to devise a list of vivid verbs is to first write down 10 to 20 specific nouns in a column. The nouns should be completely unrelated to one another and without consideration of the following step. Fold the paper lengthwise so that the nouns are not visible. On the other side of the paper, list approximately 10 verbs that are specific to any given occupation. For instance, if choosing the occupation of chef, the verbs can include "dice," "chop," "slice," "baste" and "marinate." Try to construct sentences blending the nouns with the verbs so that writing in a more descriptive manner becomes easier. The verb to be is one of the shortest and most important—yet oddest—verbs in the English language. It's an irregular verb, and indeed, the only one in English that completely changes form in each tense. The verb to be is probably the most important verb in English. It can be used in simple statements such as: How are you? It is a beautiful day! I am from Italy. However, it can also be used to express complex thoughts. In fact, it's the verb at the very core of one of William Shakespeare's most famous plays, "Hamlet," in which the title character speaks the famous line: "To be, or not to be?" In this famous quotation, Prince Hamlet is questioning his very existence, and in effect, wondering if it's better to be dead than alive. At its core, that's what to be can connote: a state of being or existence. To Be as a Linking, Transitive, or Auxiliary Verb To be is a very common verb, however, it's important to learn how to use it properly. Before conjugating the verb in its present and past tenses, it's important to understand what this verb does. To be is a stative verb, meaning, it refers to the way things are—their appearance, state of being, and even their smell. To be or can be a linking verb that joins the subject of a sentence to a word or phrase that tells something about the subject, as in these examples: Jennifer is my sister. That television show is interesting. Our house is in the countryside. To be can also be an auxiliary or helping verb that works with the main verb, as in these examples: Kim is making a clay vase. Joe had built his first model rocket last year. People have admired Michelangelo's sculptures for centuries. To be can also be a transitive verb, which is a verb that takes either a direct or indirect object. An example would be: "Sue is talking." In this sentence, is, the "to be" verb, takes a direct object, talking. As with any verb, the present tense of the verb to be can take several forms: the indicative or simple present, the present perfect, and the present continuous. The tables below show how to conjugate to be in these forms: Indicative Mode Singular Plural I am We are You are You are He/She/It is They are Note that even in the indicative—or simple—present tense, the verb changes in the first, second, and third-person uses. The present perfect, formed by combining has or have with a past participle—usually a verb ending in -d, -ed, or -n—indicates actions or events that have been completed or have happened in the present. Singular Plural I have been We have been You have been You have been He/She/It has been They have been. Examples of the present perfect include: I have been a teacher for many years. She has been to France several times in her life. To correctly use the verb in the present perfect, just remember that only the third-person singular uses has. All of the other forms in this tense use have. The present continuous, also known as the present progressive, is generally used to express something happening at the moment. Singular Plural I am thinking We are thinking You are thinking You are thinking He/She/It is thinking They are thinking. An example sentence might be: "That course is being taken by a number of students." Notice how the "to be" verb changes depending on the person—first, second, or third—as well as the number, singular or plural. There's no easy trick to learning which form of to be to use here. Just remember, the first person, singular requires am, the second person requires are, and third-person singular requires is. Fortunately, all the plural forms use are. Past simple indicates that something happened at a specific time in the past, as in: "Her house was built in 1987." Singular Plural I was. We were. You were. You were. He/She/It was. They were. Note that the past singular requires was for the first and third person, while were is used with a second-person pronoun. All forms use were for the plural tenses. The past perfect indicates actions or events that have been completed or have happened in the past. Singular Plural I had been. We had been. You had been. You had been. He/She/It had been. They had been. Some examples include: Peter had been to the office before they arrived. How long had you been in town before he called you? Peter had been to the post office presumably only once before they arrived, and the person being addressed in the second sentence had "been in town" for a specific time period before "he called." The past continuous is usually used to refer to events happening at the same time that something important was occurring. Singular Plural I was being We were being You were being You were being He/She/It was being They were being An example of the past continuous in a sentence would be: "The ideas were being discussed while the decisions were being made." In this case, the past continuous is used twice to highlight how one action was taking place at the same time as another: ideas "were being" discussed at the same time decisions "were being" made. To be can also be used in other ways in the present and past tense, such as: The comparative or superlative form to make a comparison: "The Mercedes is faster than the Fiat." or "The Mercedes is the fastest car on the lot." In the modal form, also known as the present possibility, indicating that something may occur, as in: "He should be at church waiting for us," and past possibility indicating that something might have happened in the past, as in: "He might have been at school or at home." A copular verb is when to be is used to join the subject of a sentence or clause to a complement. Generally, these complements are descriptions, often adjective or noun phrases, such as "I am sometimes late for work." A copular "to be" verb is essentially a transitive verb, except that the object is a phrase or clause rather than a single word. In this case, the "to be" verb, am, links the subject "I" with the description of the subject, (a person who is) "sometimes late for work."

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