

A verb is a doing word. It expresses some action. In the following examples, the verbs are given in bold font.

Examples

I **teach** English.

She **eats** bread.

Types of Verb

- Lexical Verbs
- DE lexical Verbs
- Stative/Being Verbs
- Non-Continuous Verbs
- Auxiliary/Helping Verbs
- Modal Verbs
- Linking Verbs/COPULA
- Regular Verbs/Weak Verbs
- Irregular Verbs/Strong Verbs
- Transitive Verbs
- Intransitive Verbs
- Ergative Verbs
- Phrasal Verbs
- Reflexive Verbs
- Finite Verbs

Action or Dynamic Verbs

Action verbs show a physical or a mental action.

Example:

I **Kicked** the football into the goal.

The dog **ran** across the road.

She **wept** bitterly.

He **sings** a song.

Lexical Verbs

Lexical verbs carry their full meanings. They give the real information. They do not rely on other words to convey their meanings. They are also termed the main verb or full verbs. They stand in contrast with de-lexical verbs that convey only a partial meaning. They also stand in contrast with auxiliary verbs that convey only the grammatical meanings.

Examples:

She **cried** loudly.

She **laughed** softly.

De-lexical Verbs

De-lexical verbs have very little meaning of their own. They rely on the following noun to convey the clear meanings. Some common de-lexical verbs are : take, make, have, give, etc.

Examples:

I **took** a shower.

I **had** a drink.

He **gave** a loud laugh.

She **made** a noise.

Static/Being Verbs

Static verbs describe a state rather than an action. They are not usually used in the present continuous form. A few such verbs are: Be, have, like, prefer, understand, belong, doubt, love, hate, know, want, need, own, see, hear, smell, believe, remember, etc.

Examples:

She **is** a good reader.

He **seems** to be sad.

I **like** swimming.

Moonis **belongs** to a noble family.

Non-Continuous verbs

Non-Continuous verbs are used in continuous form. They are not used in progressive tenses. They are short of Stative verbs. They tell us about some state not an action. Some such verbs are:

Example

Be, want, cost, seem, need, care, contain, owe, exist, possess, own, belong, like, love, hate, dislike, fear, envy, mind, etc.

Linking verbs/Copula

A verb that joins the subject to a complement. Here are some common linking verbs:

Be seem, look, feel, taste, smell, sound, grow, remain, prove stay, etc.

Examples:

She **is** happy.

She **looks** sad.

Verb and its Types

Regular Verbs/ Weak Verbs

Regular verbs form their past simple and past participle by adding “-ed” to their base form; For example, laugh-laughed-laughed; look-looked-looked.

Examples:

infinitives	Simple Present	Past simple V2	Past Participle V3	Present Participle
To advise	Advise	Advised	Advised	Advising
To allow	Allow	Allowed	Allowed	Allowing
To enjoy	Enjoy	Enjoyed	Enjoyed	Enjoying
To rain	Rain	Rained	Rained	Raining
To smile	Smile	Smiled	Smiled	Smiling

Irregular Verbs/ Strong Verbs

Irregular Verb form their past simple and past participle in different ways; for example, buy-bought-bought, eat-ate-eaten.

Examples:

infinitives	Simple Present	Past simple V2	Past Participle V3	Present Participle
To know	Know	Knew	Known	Knowing
To go	Go	Gone	Gone	Going
To drink	Drink	Drank	Drunk	Drinking
To hold	Hold	Held	Held	Holding
To write	Write	Wrote	Written	Writing

Transitive Verbs

A verb that takes a direct object is a transitive verb.

Examples:

She **does** his duty.

she **learns** her lesson.

Intransitive verbs

A verb which does not take a direct object is an intransitive verb.

Examples:

He **runs** fast.

He **walks** slowly.

Ergative verbs

Many verbs function as transitive as well as intransitive verbs. The verb that can be either transitive or intransitive is called an ergative verb. In the following examples the verb, **'Leave'** is an **ergative verb**.

Examples:

The bus **left** early in the morning.

(There is no object in this sentence; therefore, the verb 'left' functions as an intransitive verb here.)

Phrasal verbs

A phrasal verb is a verb followed by a particle. The article could be a preposition or an adverb. It creates a meaning totally different from the original verb.

Examples:

She has **got** a job.

She **gets up** early in the morning.

Reflexive Verb

A verb that takes a reflexive pronoun as its object is a reflexive verb.

Examples:

Be careful, you may **cut** yourself.

Here 'yourself' is a reflexive pronoun and cut is a reflexive verb.

Finite Verbs

A finite verb must have a subject. It is the main verb in an independent clause or a sentence. Finite verbs give information about gender, person, number, tenses, aspect, mood, and voice.

Examples:

Finite verbs are **bold** and infinite verbs are in underline form.

1. A verb **is** needed in every sentence.
2. I **am** explaining finite and non-finite verbs.

In English, there can be just one finite verb at the root of each clause; whereas the number of non-finite verbs can reach up to six or even more.

i.e. He **is** believed to have been asked to get himself medically checked.

Infinitive/Non-Infinite verb

A non-finite verb is also called an infinite verb. It does not have a subject. It does not express tenses or number. It cannot be the main verb in an independent clause. Unlike a finite verb, it typically works as an infinitive, a participles and a gerund.

Example:

This particular sentence contain one finite verb underlined and multiple **infinite** verbs bolded.

What did Imran **want** to **have done** about Hashem?