

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Action and Linking Verbs

The main word in the predicate of a sentence is a verb. Verbs that show actions are called **action verbs**. Most verbs show actions you can see. Some verbs, such as *think* and *wonder*, show actions you cannot see.

**Action Verbs** Mrs. Bailey gave the man some food.

Katy wondered about the stranger.

**Linking verbs** do not show actions. They tell what the subject is or what the subject is like. Common linking verbs are forms of the verb *to be*, such as *am*, *is*, *are*, *was*, and *were*. Verbs such as *seem*, *appear*, *become*, and *feel* can also be linking verbs.

**Linking Verbs** The man was weak.

Soon he felt better.

**Directions** Circle the verb in each sentence.

1. The Bailey family lives on a farm.
2. Katy is Mr. and Mrs. Bailey's daughter.
3. She peeked into the room.
4. The stranger wore rough leather clothing.
5. He seemed confused and unhappy.
6. A doctor examined the stranger.
7. Later the stranger felt better.
8. He helped Mr. Bailey on the farm.

**Directions** Underline action verbs. Circle linking verbs.

9. The trees were bright red.
10. The stranger became sad.
11. The family waved goodbye.
12. Every year, the stranger leaves a message.



**Home Activity** Your child learned about action and linking verbs. Ask your child to tell you something that happened today. Have your child identify action and linking verbs in his or her account.

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# Action and Linking Verbs

**Directions** Choose the best action verb from the box to complete each sentence. Write the new sentence on the line.

dawdles scurry shudder shimmers delights twitter

1. Summer \_\_\_ us with its warmth.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Sunlight \_\_\_ on the lake.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. On a breezy day clouds \_\_\_ across the sky.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Birds \_\_\_ to one another.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. A lazy cat \_\_\_ on the front steps.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. We \_\_\_ at the thought of winter.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Write a paragraph about your favorite time of year. Use strong action verbs and at least one of these linking verbs: *appear, feel, seem, become*. Underline all the linking verbs you use.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Home Activity** Your child learned how to use action and linking verbs in writing. Encourage your child to write a journal entry about the day's activities. Have him or her underline action verbs and circle linking verbs.

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# Action and Linking Verbs

**Directions** Mark the letter of the verb that completes each sentence.

1. The seasons \_\_\_ in a regular pattern.
  - A is
  - B be
  - C change
  - D runs
2. Summer \_\_\_ autumn.
  - A to
  - B becomes
  - C from
  - D and
3. People \_\_\_ the fallen leaves.
  - A up
  - B in
  - C are
  - D rake
4. The days \_\_\_ shorter.
  - A than
  - B much
  - C are
  - D longer
5. We \_\_\_ our winter clothes.
  - A unpack
  - B worn
  - C into
  - D be
6. Logs \_\_\_ in the fireplace.
  - A burn
  - B become
  - C was
  - D appears
7. The air \_\_\_ clean and fresh.
  - A are
  - B feels
  - C blow
  - D am
8. Geese \_\_\_ south for warmer lands.
  - A flows
  - B cry
  - C to
  - D fly
9. Soon the first flakes of snow \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A fallen
  - B fall
  - C is
  - D do
10. Winter \_\_\_ with us.
  - A become
  - B are
  - C be
  - D is



**Home Activity** Your child prepared for taking tests on action and linking verbs. Have your child write action and linking verbs on index cards. Ask your child to use these verbs in sentences as you hold up the cards one at a time.

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# Action and Linking Verbs

**Directions** Write the verb in each sentence.

1. *The Stranger* describes a farm. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mr. Bailey's life was hard. \_\_\_\_\_
3. He worked at many jobs. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Farmers raised pigs, sheep, and cows. \_\_\_\_\_
5. They also grew crops. \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Underline action verbs. Circle linking verbs.

6. Farms in the old days were smaller than today's farms.
7. Modern farms seem more like factories.
8. Farmers today often specialize in only one crop.
9. Long ago, farmers milked cows by hand.
10. Today they use machines.
11. Hens sometimes wandered into the farmhouse.
12. Now hens live in special cages.
13. Farming is still hard work.
14. Computers and modern equipment help farmers today.
15. Today's farms are big businesses.



**Home Activity** Your child reviewed action and linking verbs. With your child, look at a newspaper or magazine article. Ask your child to circle action verbs in red and linking verbs in blue.