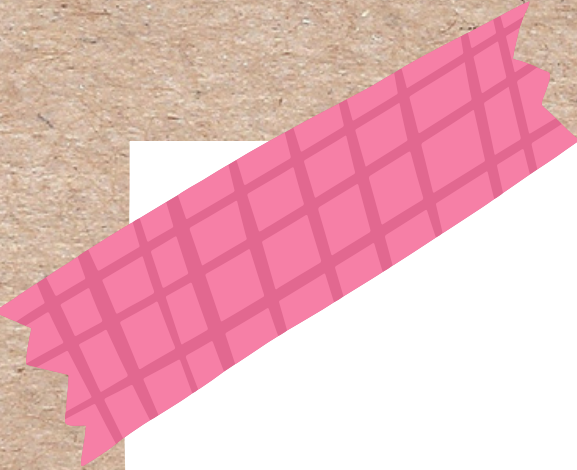
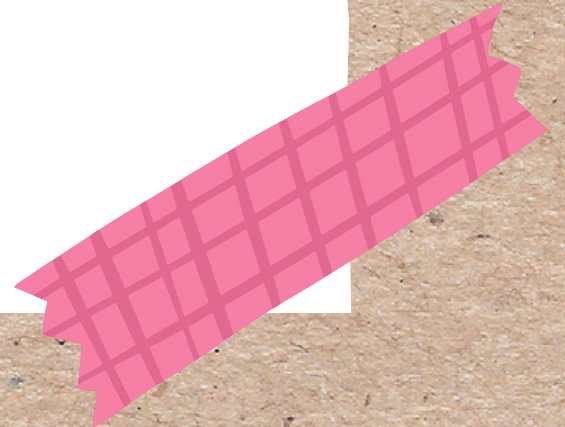
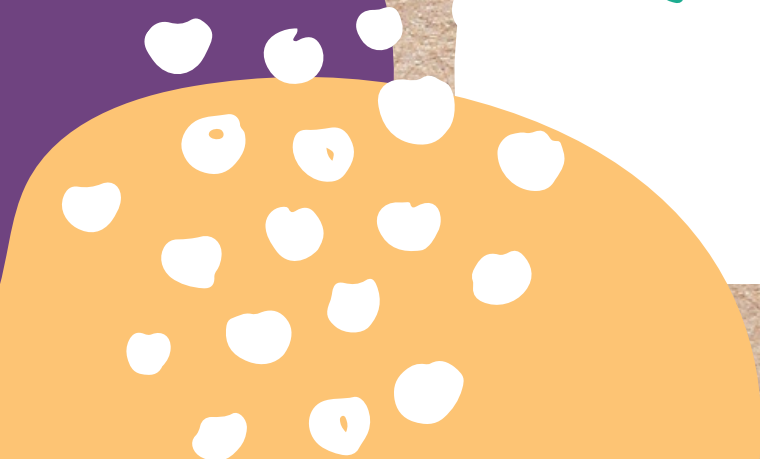
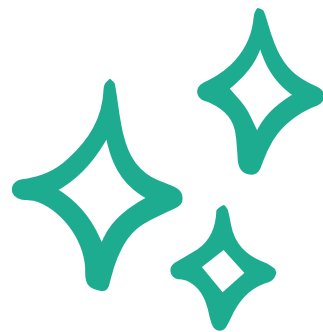


LINKING VERBS



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WHAT IS A LINKING VERB?

A linking verb is a verb that connects the subject of a sentence with a subject complement, which can be either an adjective, a noun, or a pronoun. Unlike action verbs, linking verbs do not show any action performed by the subject. Instead, they describe a state of being, a condition, or a relationship between the subject and the complement.

Linking verbs serve to provide more information about the subject by expressing its state, identity, or characteristics. They are often used to describe sensations, emotions, appearance, or other qualities that help the reader or listener understand more about the subject of the sentence.

Common examples of linking verbs include forms of the verb "to be" (am, is, are, was, were, etc.) as well as other verbs like "seem," "become," "appear," "feel," "look," "sound," "taste," and "smell." In sentences with linking verbs, the subject and the complement are essentially equal, with the verb serving as a link between them.

LINKING VERBS VS ACTION VERBS

Linking Verbs:

1. Connection: Linking verbs connect the subject of a sentence to a subject complement, which can be an adjective, noun, or pronoun.
 - Example: She is a doctor. (Here, "is" links the subject "She" to the noun "doctor.")
2. State of Being: Linking verbs express a state of being, describing how the subject exists or its condition.
 - Example: The cake smells delicious. (Here, "smells" describes the state of the cake.)
3. No Physical Action: Linking verbs do not show action or movement.
 - Example: He feels happy. (Here, "feels" indicates an emotion, not a physical action.)
4. Forms of "To Be": Common linking verbs include forms of the verb "to be" (am, is, are, was, were, etc.) as well as other verbs like "seem," "become," "appear," etc.

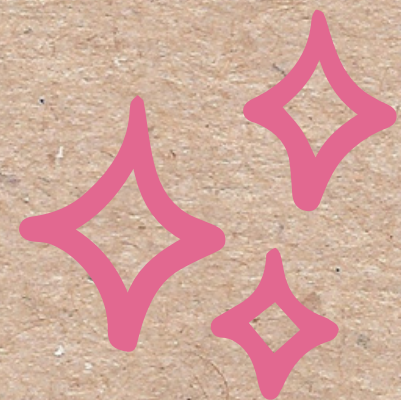
Action Verbs:

1. Action: Action verbs describe an action or something that someone or something does.
2. Example: She runs every morning. (Here, "runs" indicates a physical action performed by the subject.)
3. What the Subject Does: Action verbs show what the subject of the sentence is doing.
4. Example: The dog chased the ball. (Here, "chased" shows the action of the dog.)
5. Physical Movement: Action verbs often involve physical movement, although they can also represent mental or emotional actions.
6. Example: He writes stories. (Physical action of writing)



KEY DIFFERENCES:

- Linking verbs connect the subject to additional information about its state or identity (subject complement) and do not indicate physical action.
- Action verbs, on the other hand, describe an action performed by the subject and often involve physical movement.



SUBJECT COMPLEMENTS



- Subject complements are words or phrases that follow linking verbs and provide more information about the subject of a sentence. They serve to describe, identify, or rename the subject, completing the meaning of the linking verb. Subject complements can be either adjectives, nouns, or pronouns.

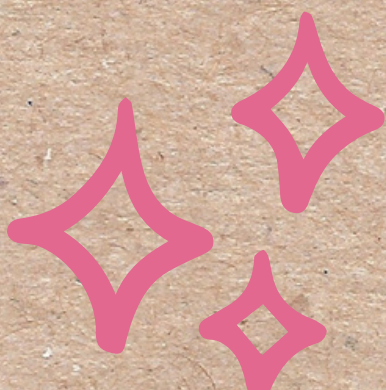
■ Here's a breakdown of the types of subject complements in linking verb constructions:

■ 1. Adjective Complements:

- An adjective complement modifies the subject, providing additional descriptive information.
 - Example: She is intelligent. (The adjective "intelligent" describes the subject "She.")

■ 2. Noun Complements:

- A noun complement renames or identifies the subject, functioning as a predicate nominative.
 - Example: He is a doctor. (The noun phrase "a doctor" identifies the subject "He.")



SUBJECT COMPLEMENTS



3. Pronoun Complements:

- A pronoun complement can also rename or identify the subject.



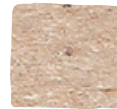
- Example: The winner was she. (The pronoun "she" identifies the subject "The winner.")



In sentences with linking verbs, the subject complement is essential for conveying the full meaning of the sentence. The linking verb acts as a bridge, connecting the subject to the complement, which further describes or identifies the subject. Identifying subject complements is important for understanding the relationship between the subject and the information provided by the verb.



Remember, not all verbs are linking verbs; action verbs do not take subject complements. The presence of a subject complement is a strong indicator that the verb in the sentence is a linking verb, as it connects the subject to additional information rather than indicating an action.



FORM AND TENSES:

Linking verbs, unlike action verbs, remain the same in all forms and tenses. They do not change their form based on the person, number, or tense of the subject. This is because linking verbs primarily serve to connect the subject to a subject complement, indicating a state of being or a condition rather than an action that is performed.

Forms of Linking Verbs:

1. Present Forms:

- am/is/are: These are forms of the verb "to be" and are used with the present tense subjects.
 - Examples: I am happy. She is intelligent. They are tired.

2. Past Forms:

- was/were: These are past tense forms of the verb "to be" and are used with past tense subjects.
 - Examples: He was excited. We were friends.

3. Future Forms:

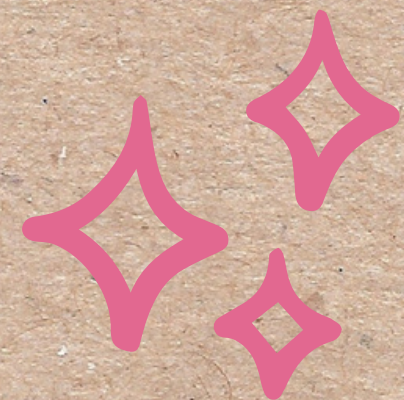
- will be: Linking verbs do not change in the future tense. "Will be" is used with future tense subjects.
 - Example: She will be a doctor.

TENSES AND LINKING VERBS:

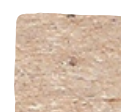
Linking verbs do not have different forms for different tenses because they do not express actions that occur in specific time frames. Instead, they express a state of being or a condition that is generally true across different time periods.

- Present Tense: Describes actions happening right now or general truths.
 - Example: The soup smells delicious. (present tense)
- Past Tense: Describes actions that happened in the past.
 - Example: He was my classmate. (past tense)
- Future Tense: Describes actions that will happen in the future.
 - Example: She will be a famous artist. (future tense)
 -

In each of these tenses, linking verbs do not change their form. They serve the same linking function regardless of when the action or state of being occurs, providing consistency in sentence structure across different time frames.

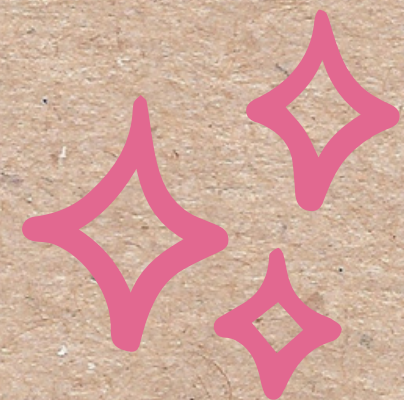


COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID:

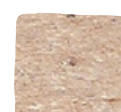


- Common Mistake: Using an action verb instead of a linking verb, which can change the meaning of the sentence.
- Example: Incorrect: She feels the fabric soft. (Action verb indicating physical action)
- Correct: She feels soft fabric. (Linking verb indicating the fabric's quality)





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PRACTICE:

- Identify the linking verbs and subject complements in the following sentences:
 - The flowers smell wonderful.
 - He seemed tired after the long journey.
 - The movie appears interesting.
 - They are my best friends.
 - The cake tastes sweet.