

## Identifying Kinds of Verbs/Verb Phrases A

### 3a. A **verb** is a word used to express action or a state of being.

Verbs may be classified as (1) helping or main verbs, (2) action or linking verbs, and (3) transitive or intransitive verbs.

**EXAMPLES** The USS *Nautilus*, the first nuclear-powered submarine, **had been cruising** the seas for many years. [*Had* and *been* are helping verbs, and *cruising* is the main verb. *Had been cruising* is both an action verb and a transitive verb.]

Before its retirement, it **had traveled** around the world. [*Had* is a helping verb, and *traveled* is the main verb. *Had traveled* is both an action verb and an intransitive verb.]

For how long **had** the submarine **been** operational? [*Had* is a helping verb, and *been* is the main verb. *Had been* is both a linking verb and an intransitive verb.]

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, draw one line under the helping verb(s) and two lines under the main verb. Then, on the line to the left of each sentence, write *TR* if the verb is *transitive* or *IN* if the verb is *intransitive*.

**Example** TR 1. A band will perform German music at the cafe tonight.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The couple had visited the German cafe several times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Katerina had heard a few bands there.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Tonight a new band will perform.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Boris will be listening carefully.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Boris might sing with the band.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The band will be playing popular German songs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. All last week, Boris had been practicing the songs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Boris will be learning new German music.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. He has been studying the German language for two years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Katerina will play accordion with the band.

**EXERCISE A** For each of the following sentences, underline the verb. Then, on the line before each sentence, write *AV* if the verb is an *action verb* or *LV* if the verb is a *linking verb*.

**Example** LV 1. We grew tired after several hours.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The soup tasted salty.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The chef tasted the soup.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Martin grew roses in his garden.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. She became a police officer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The daisy smelled sweet.

## Identifying Kinds of Verbs/Verb Phrases B

**3a.** A **verb** is a word used to express action or a state of being.

**EXAMPLES** We **have been making** piñatas for the fiesta. [*Have* and *been* are helping verbs, and *making* is the main verb. *Have been making* is both an action verb and a transitive verb.]

You certainly **have been** busy! [*Have* is a helping verb, and *been* is the main verb. *Have been* is both a linking verb and an intransitive verb.]

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, draw one line under any helping verb(s) and two lines under the main verb. Then, on the line to the left of each sentence, write *AV* if the verb is an *action verb* or *LV* if the verb is a *linking verb*. Also, on the line, write *TR* if the verb is *transitive* or *IN* if the verb is *intransitive*.

**Example** AV. IN 1. Will you dance at the talent show?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. I will dance a reel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Our costumes look beautiful.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. How will they look?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We have sewn them ourselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Mine is purple and black.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Hillary will wear blue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Both of us will be leaping.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Have you thought about performing?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. You gave a good show last year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Have you learned improvisational dance?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Improvisation requires creativity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The dancer remains very aware.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Each movement flows into the next.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Duets are especially difficult.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Partners turn somersaults together.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. This has turned too difficult for me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Actually, everyone can dance.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Many have grown more self-confident.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Dance class has made me more agile.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Will you come to the class next week?