

Linking Verbs

A **linking verb** connects the subject to a word or word group that identifies or describes the subject. The noun, pronoun, or adjective that is connected to the subject by a linking verb completes the meaning of the verb.

EXAMPLES Judy Blume **is** a writer. [Judy Blume = writer]
Her books **remain** popular among young readers. [popular books]

Some verbs may be used as linking verbs or as action verbs.

LINKING The room **smelled** smoky.
ACTION We **smelled** smoke in the room.

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, draw one line under the linking verb and two lines under the words that the verb connects.

Example 1. The pilot remained calm.

1. Beryl Markham was a famous pilot.
2. She stayed alert on many difficult and long flights.
3. Her accomplishments seem remarkable to many people.
4. Markham became the first woman to fly nonstop from England to America.
5. The task was difficult because of strong opposing winds.
6. A new club in 1929 was the Ninety-Nines.
7. Ninety-nine was the number of its original members.
8. Members were female pilots only.
9. The club remains active today.
10. Female pilots are more common now than many years ago.

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, identify the underlined verb by writing above it *LV* for *linking verb* or *AV* for *action verb*.

Examples 1. Mr. Singh ^{AV} looked in the cabinet for a serving dish.
2. The vegetable curry ^{LV} looked tasty.

11. Mr. Singh tasted the vegetable curry.
12. The stew tasted deliciously spicy.
13. Mr. Singh grew many of the vegetables in his backyard.
14. He grew fond of curry dishes when he lived in India.
15. Mr. Singh's recipe for vegetable curry remains his secret.