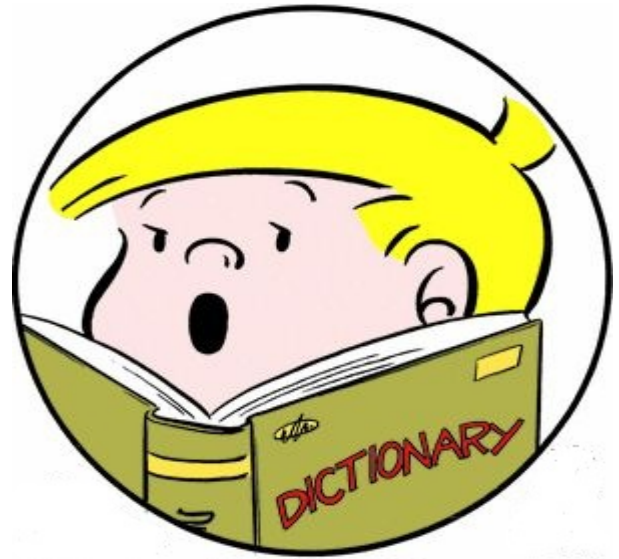


VERBS 1

1 A **verb** is the most important word in any sentence. The verb is the **doing word**, the **action word**. It is the word which tells us what *happens*, what *is happening*, what *will happen*, what *has happened*, what *happened*, and so on. The English language is very rich in verbs. Try to choose verbs that really bring your sentences to life.



"That's weird. 'VERB' is a noun."

Task 1

Think of some really exciting verbs to complete these sentences.

Your teacher may award points for the most imaginative sentences.

1. Our cat with the mouse for a while, then he suddenly on it.
2. Archie onto the dance floor and at the nearest pretty girl.
3. "Someone has the Koh-i-Noor Diamond!" Joe.
4. Tarzan was so hungry he a whole wild pig by himself.
5. What a boy you are! You're dad will definitely you when we get home.

Task 2

In these sentences replace the worn-out, over-used, dull, boring verbs with ones that are more exciting and evocative. (*evocative* means *conjures up a picture*).

1. Amy ~~ran~~ towards the finish line and burst through the tape.
2. Juliet ~~said~~, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?"
3. Ben ~~went~~ under the patio to look for the lost puppy.
4. Broccoli is something I really ~~don't like~~.
5. The librarian put the books on the shelf in alphabetical order.

2 All verbs have different **tenses**. We use them to refer to the **past**, the **present** or the **future**. For example: we **studied** grammar yesterday – we **are studying** grammar now – we **will study** grammar tomorrow. We don't have to learn the tenses; we pick them up naturally as we grow up. But foreign students learning English mix them up – and we mix up theirs when we're learning their language!

Task 3

Here are some sentences written by people learning English. Can you spot where they've used the wrong tense, and replace the verbs with the correct tense?

1. Yesterday I have the chance to eat haggis. It was delicious!
2. On warm days we like to sit and ate ice-cream on Tankerton Slopes.
3. We're going to the shopping centre where we buy new trainers.
4. I would have done it if you would have told me sooner. (This one is tricky.)
5. I learn English for two years now. (So is this one!)

3 There are two kinds of English verbs: **regular** and **irregular**. Most verbs are **regular**, and we make them by adding **-ed**. For example, play, played, played. But quite a few are irregular. For example, go, went, gone. We pick them up naturally, but foreigners have a real challenge learning them.

Task 4 - Complete the table

Present tense	Past tense	Perfect tense
play	played	(have) played
arrived	arrived	(have)
go	went	(have) gone
buy	bought	(have)
run	(have) run
eat	ate	(have) eaten
laugh	(have)
think	thought	(have)
drink	(have)