

Varied Fluency

Step 1: Identifying Verbs in Sentences

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: (6G4.4) [Using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence](#)

English Year 6: (6G4.4) [Use of the passive to affect the presentation of information in a sentence \[for example, I broke the window in the greenhouse versus The window in the greenhouse was broken \(by me\)\]](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- (6G4.4) [active](#)
- (6G4.4) [passive](#)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support identifying action verbs in sentences with two clauses.

Expected Questions to support identifying action verbs, linking verbs and auxiliary verbs in sentences with two expanded clauses.

Greater Depth Questions to support identifying action verbs, linking verbs, auxiliary verbs and the correct use of the subjunctive form in sentences with a range of clauses.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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Identifying Verbs in Sentences

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1a. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

Jaimie ran quickly and won the race.



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1b. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

The sun shone brightly and dried all of the washing on the line.



VF

2a. What type of verbs are underlined in the sentence below?

The boys jumped over the wall and sprinted after the dog.



VF

2b. What type of verbs are underlined in the sentence below?

The dog dug a hole and placed his bone in it.



VF

3a. Richie has underlined the verbs in the sentence below. Correct any mistakes.

They were tired after jumping on the trampoline all morning.



VF

3b. Emily has underlined the verbs in the sentence below. Correct any mistakes.

The angels flew down and comforted those in need.



VF

4a. Which verb could fill the blank in the sentence below?

grip	held
jump	cling

The handle bars were slippery, so he had to _____ them tightly.



VF

4b. Which verb could fill the blank in the sentence below?

be	know
begin	began

Samuel _____ the race, although he knew he wouldn't win.



VF

Identifying Verbs in Sentences

Identifying Verbs in Sentences

5a. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

Even though the woodland was under threat, the council seemed reluctant to enforce a ban on the use of motorbikes in such a popular spot.



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5b. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

The weather on that fateful day had been incredibly hot, but suddenly he sensed a fresh wind and the possibility of rain approaching from the west.



VF

6a. What types of verbs are used in the sentence below?

Julian had been waiting his whole life for such an amazing opportunity, now he felt terrified.



VF

6b. What types of verbs are used in the sentence below?

Puzzlingly, each time the comet passes earth it appears brighter, while actually becoming weaker and slower.



VF

7a. Hakeem has underlined the verbs in the sentences below. Correct any mistakes.

No matter how hard they tried, the stone could not be moved. It had been put in place centuries ago, so all hope of gaining entry to the cave began to fade.



VF

7b. James has underlined the verbs in the sentence below. Correct any mistakes.

As politicians leave their holidays behind, the well discussed debates of the previous meeting return, with greater passion and enthusiasm.



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8a. Which verbs could fill the blank in the sentence below?

felt	have
were	could sense

The whole class _____ proud of their spontaneous performance during the school assembly.



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8b. Which verbs could fill the blank in the sentence below?

delivering	knows
began	pronouncing

Despite her best efforts, the reporter could not find an acceptable method of _____ such unexpected news.



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Identifying Verbs in Sentences

Identifying Verbs in Sentences

9a. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

No one could have predicted the impact being felt far and wide; even more concerning, there had been no preparation for the possible fall out.



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9b. Underline the verbs in the following sentence.

As they witnessed the star collapse, far away in a galaxy unknown to their limited intellect, a plan was hatched – impacting upon their own in devastating ways.



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10a. What types of verbs are used in the sentence below?

Dominic knew if he were ever to finish the project, he was aware he needed to focus and ignore all the distractions at home.



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10b. What types of verbs are used in the sentence below?

Whatever they believed to be true, now became hard to discern from the propaganda the government demanded be produced daily.



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11a. Lou has underlined the verbs in the sentences below. Correct any mistakes.

It is vital the actors perform with passion; showing any weakness or flaws invites criticism for such an ambitious play. There has been support every step of the way; the hopes of many lay with this show.



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11b. Anis has underlined the verbs in the sentences below. Correct any mistakes.

There are reasons to be hopeful for the future; human ingenuity has overcome obstacles which at the time seemed insurmountable. There is no reason this couldn't again be the case.



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12a. Which verbs could fill the blank in the sentence below?

were	should
are	be

I would suggest the efforts of the children to overcome the effects of cyberbullying _____ applauded.



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12b. Which verbs could fill the blank in the sentence below?

know	guarantee
verify	ensure

It is vital we _____ the spy is extracted successfully; otherwise the whole mission could be threatened.



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Varied Fluency Identifying Verbs in Sentences

Developing

- 1a. Jaimie ran quickly and won the race.
2a. **action verbs**
3a. **Trampoline is a noun so it should not be underlined.**
4a. **grip**

Expected

- 5a. Even though the woodland was under threat, the council seemed reluctant to enforce an outright ban on the use of motorbikes in such a popular spot.
6a. **'had been' auxiliary verbs; 'waiting' action verb; 'felt' linking verb**
7a. **Hakeem has missed 'began to fade' and has incorrectly underlined 'hope' which is used as a noun in this instance.**
8a. **felt; were**

Greater Depth

- 9a. No one could have predicted the impact being felt far and wide; even more concerning, there had been no preparation for the possible fall out.
10a. **'knew', 'to finish', 'to focus' and 'ignore' 'needed' action verbs; 'was' linking verb; 'were' auxiliary verb used in the subjunctive form**
11a. **Lou has missed 'is', 'invites', 'has been' and 'lay'. She also incorrectly underlined 'passion', 'ambitious', 'support' and 'show'.**
12a. **are, be or should be**

Varied Fluency Identifying Verbs in Sentences

Developing

- 1b. The sun shone brightly and dried all of the washing on the line.
2b. **action verbs**
3b. **Down is used as an adverb in this instance so it should not be underlined.**
4b. **began**

Expected

- 5b. The weather on that fateful day had been stifflingly hot, but suddenly he sensed a fresh wind and the possibility of rain approaching from the west.
6b. **'passes' action verb; 'appears' and 'becoming' linking verbs**
7b. **James has missed 'return' and 'discussed' and has incorrectly underlined 'behind', 'debates', 'meeting' and 'passion'.**
8b. **delivering**

Greater Depth

- 9b. As the team witnessed the star collapse, far away in a galaxy unknown to their limited intellect, a plan, impacting in devastating ways upon their own, was hatched.
10b. **'believed', 'to discern' and 'demanded' action verbs; 'to be' 'became' linking verb; 'be produced' auxiliary and action verbs used in the subjunctive form**
11b. **Anis has missed 'has overcome', 'is', 'couldn't' and 'be'. She also incorrectly underlined 'hopeful' and 'insurmountable'.**
12b. **All four verbs; know, guarantee, verify, ensure**