

17.2 Linking Verbs (Be, Other Linking Verbs) • Practice 1

Forms of Be A linking verb is a verb that connects a word at or near the beginning of a sentence with a word at or near the end. In English the most common linking verb is some form of *be*.

THE FORMS OF BE					
am	am being	can be	shall be	have been	might have been
are	are being	could be	should be	has been	must have been
is	is being	may be	will be	had been	shall have been
was	was being	might be	would be	could have been	should have been
were	were being	must be		may have been	will have been
					would have been

Other Linking Verbs Other verbs may be used in the same ways as *be* to link two parts of a sentence.

OTHER LINKING VERBS					
appear	feel	look	seem	sound	taste
become	grow	remain	smell	stay	turn

Exercise 1 **Recognizing Forms of Be Used as Linking Verbs.** Circle the form of *be* in each sentence below. Then underline the words in the sentence that the verb links.

EXAMPLE: Geoff may be our new class president.

- The fans were eager for a win.
- The purpose of the experiment was not clear to us.
- Some of the council members were angry about the tax proposal.
- Like my mother, I am an ardent music lover.
- Both candidates were optimistic throughout the day.
- One of the boxes was completely empty.
- Reviews in both major papers were unfavorable.
- Some people are anxious about dental appointments.
- This colorful poster is suitable for framing.
- T-shirts are popular dress among young people.

Exercise 2 **Recognizing Other Linking Verbs.** Circle the linking verb in each sentence. Then underline the words that the verb links.

EXAMPLE: Aunt Ethel seemed happy with our visit.

- The patient looks better today.
- The lemonade tastes sour.
- The crowd became angry.
- The old barn smelled musty.
- That music sounds too loud.