

17.2 Linking Verbs (Linking Verb or Action Verb?)

• Practice 1

Linking Verb or Action Verb? Some verbs may be used as an action verb in one sentence and as a linking verb in another. If a verb is a linking verb, *am*, *are*, or *is* will make sense when substituted for it in a sentence.

Linking Verbs	Action Verbs
Robbie <i>grew</i> quite tall. (Robbie <i>is</i> tall?) linking	Robbie <i>grew</i> tomatoes. (Robbie <i>is</i> tomatoes?) not linking
The pizza <i>smells</i> good. (The pizza <i>is</i> good?) linking	Tanya <i>smelled</i> the rose. (Tanya <i>is</i> the rose?) not linking

Exercise 1 Distinguishing Between Linking Verbs and Action Verbs. On each blank at the right, write whether each sentence contains a linking verb or an action verb.

EXAMPLE: This soup tastes too salty. linking

- The chef tasted the sauce. _____
- The lemon juice turned the milk sour. _____
- The driver turned the corner carefully. _____
- I looked carefully through the book. _____
- I felt refreshed after my catnap. _____
- We stayed for three hours. _____
- Erin remains friends with Dawn even now. _____
- Mom felt the fabric before buying it. _____
- The nurse sounded the alarm. _____
- The baby looks a little pale. _____

Exercise 2 Adding Verbs to Sentences. Fill in each blank within the sentence with an appropriate verb. On each blank line at the right, write whether the verb is an action verb or a linking verb.

EXAMPLE: Everyone stayed calm during the emergency. linking

- Cold lemonade _____ refreshing on a warm day. _____
- Last night I _____ squid for the first time. _____
- Since his illness, Grandpa _____ tired easily. _____
- Litmus paper _____ red in an acid solution. _____
- The bus _____ left into the service area. _____
- Our neighbor _____ prize-winning roses. _____
- I _____ interested in coins a year ago. _____
- Each bird's call _____ different. _____
- We _____ at four different models. _____
- The jeweler _____ closely at the ring. _____