



KS3 Skills Builder booklet

Year 9 Literacy Skills Builder



Name:

Year:

English Teacher:

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Archbishop Holgate's School
KS3 Skills Builder booklet



Week 1: Auxiliary verbs

What is an auxiliary verb and when would I use one?

Rules:

Helping verbs or **auxiliary verbs** such as *will, shall, may, might, can, could, must, ought to, should, would, used to, need* are used in conjunction with **main verbs** to express shades of time and mood. The combination of helping verbs with main verbs creates what are called **verb phrases** or **verb strings**. In the following sentence, "will have been" are helping or auxiliary verbs and "studying" is the main verb; the whole verb string is underlined:

- As of next August, I will have been studying chemistry for ten years.

Be	Do	Have
am	does	has
is	do	have
are	did	had
was		having
were		
being		
been		

Modal Auxiliary Verbs – *can, could, do, may, might, ought, used to*.

Examples: *Can I take your dog, Toto, for a walk to the park?*

*Susana **could** sing as well as dance.*

***Do** you know the Eight Parts of Speech, my dear?*

***May** I have the pleasure of dancing with you?*

*I **might** go to the party with Hannah.*

*Michael **ought** to look for another job in the hospital.*

*I **used to** design pencil sharpeners before I became famous*



Task 1

Underline the complete verb in each sentence. Circle the helping verb (auxiliary verb).

1. Jason will play video games tomorrow.
2. The surgeon has operated many times before.
3. My little sister is singing like a rock star.
4. Scott can kick better than anyone on the team.
5. The beautiful sailboat was built in 1985.
6. Sarah is walking her puppy in the park.
7. Jake and his dad are using the computer.
8. Mom will bake special cookies for the party.
9. Tim had given his mother some flowers.
10. The very small girl can ski all by herself.

Identifying the Complete Verb. Underline the main verb and the auxiliary verb(s) in the following sentences. Do not include any modifiers.

1. When are you going on your canoe trip?
2. Mr. Costello is constantly giving us directions.
3. Jim should have pitched his tent sooner.
4. Joe could have been badly injured.
5. The new paints are constantly being improved.
6. We will be electing class officers tomorrow.
7. The snowfall had not quite ended at six this morning.
8. I shall certainly miss you next week.
9. Mrs. Barnes has always given generously to charity.
10. The price of most food is rising again.
11. How many books have you read this year?
12. I have already seen that TV program.
13. The old man does not walk to town any more.
14. Nancy and Mark have been given major parts in the school play.
15. Your good deed will never be forgotten.



16. Ms. Smith has definitely agreed to our suggestions.
17. The new club officers will have been chosen by tomorrow evening.
18. You could have gone to the party without me.
19. Mr. Davis has never neglected his work before.
20. Our team could have played in the state tournament.



Merit Challenge!

Find an example of an auxiliary verb in your reading book and write it down here:

Look through your exercise book. Have you used any auxiliary verbs? Highlight an example and get your partner to check it.

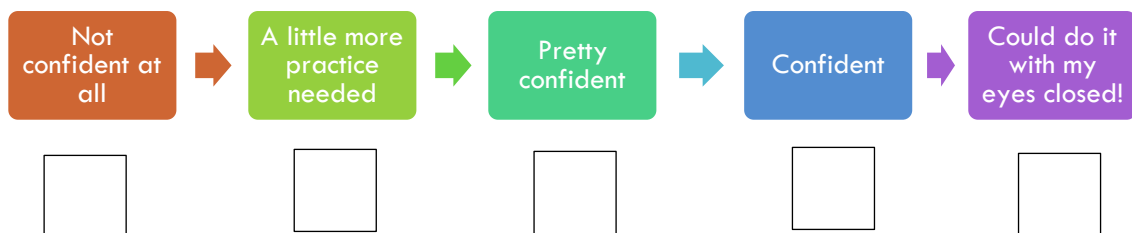
Review learning

Record the rules for using auxiliary verbs in the box below. You can bullet point them. No cheating!

Progress timeline



How confident are you with auxiliary verbs?





Week 2- Finite and non-finite verbs

What is a finite verb and when would I use one?

Rules:

A **Finite** verb is one that can be used with a subject to make a tense.

I **walked** to school yesterday. We **watched** the cricket match together.

The finite forms of the verb are those which signal contrasts of number, tense, person and mood.

Show a contrast in **tense**:

She **works** in London. She **worked** in London.

Show a contrast in number and person:

He **works**. They **work**. I **am**. You **are**.

Allow the expression of facts, possibilities wishes, and other contrasts of **mood**:

He asked that the car **be** moved. It **was** moved.

A **finite verb** is a word like **break, work, broke, sing, write** etc. Finite verbs change their form according to the number and person of the subject. For instance, when the subject is a singular noun, the *finite verb break* changes its form into *breaks*. Finite verbs are also governed by the tenses. For instance, when the sentence is in the simple past tense, *the finite verb break* changes its form into *broke*. Similarly, *work* changes into *worked* and *sing* changes into *sang* in the past tense.

Non-finite verbs do not change their form according to the number and person of the subject. Examples are **gerunds, participles and infinitives**.

I like reading.

He likes reading

Here the verb **like** is finite because it changes its form according to the number and person of the subject. The gerund **reading** is non-finite because it does not change its form according to the number and person of the subject.

There are three non-finite forms of the verb:

The **-ing** participle: I'm **going**. They're **going**. He was **going**. **Going** home, I/ we/they felt concerned.

The **-ed** participle:



I've **asked**. He was **asked**. They were **asked**. **Asked** to come home early, I/you/we arrived at 3.

The base form used as an **infinitive**: They might **see**. I'll **see**. He wants to **see**.

Task 1

Add a finite verb to the subordinate clause in each sentence:

When the bus _____, the children all rushed off.

The horses were grazing happily until the motorbike _____ past their field.

When Thomas _____ the news, he did not believe it.

Find out the finite and non-finite verbs in the sentences given below:

1. He gave me a chair to sit.
2. It was a sight to see.
3. I want to buy some clothes.
4. Barking dogs seldom bite.
5. He is about to leave.
6. It is time to start.
7. He was wearing a torn shirt.
8. He had his shoes polished.
9. They got the roof repaired.
10. Finding the door open I went inside.



Merit Challenge!

Find an example of a finite verb in your reading book and write it down here:

Look through your exercise book. Have you used any non-finite verbs? Highlight an example and get your partner to check it.

Review learning

Record the rules for using finite and non-finite in the box below. You can bullet point them. No cheating!

Progress timeline



How confident are you with finite and non-finite verbs?

