

# helping and linking verbs worksheet

Helping and linking verbs worksheet are essential tools in any educator's arsenal for teaching students about the intricacies of the English language. These worksheets serve to clarify the roles of helping verbs and linking verbs, providing students with the necessary skills to identify and use them correctly in their writing and speech. Understanding these verbs is crucial for developing grammatical proficiency, which is foundational for effective communication.

In this article, we will explore what helping and linking verbs are, their functions within sentences, how to create engaging worksheets, and activities that reinforce these concepts.

## Understanding Helping Verbs

Helping verbs, also known as auxiliary verbs, are used alongside main verbs to form verb phrases. They add functional meaning to the sentences, helping to express tenses, moods, and voices.

## Common Helping Verbs

There are several helping verbs in the English language, including:

1. Be: am, is, are, was, were, being, been
2. Have: have, has, had, having
3. Do: do, does, did, doing
4. Modal Verbs: can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would

These verbs are essential for forming different tenses and grammatical structures. For instance:

- Present Perfect: "She has read the book."
- Future: "They will go to the park."
- Passive Voice: "The cake was eaten by the children."

## Functions of Helping Verbs

Helping verbs serve several critical functions in sentences:

- Indicating Tense: They help convey when an action takes place (past, present, future).
- Forming Questions: Helping verbs assist in creating interrogative sentences. For example, "Are you coming to the party?"
- Creating Negatives: They also help negate statements, such as in "I do not like spinach."

# Understanding Linking Verbs

Linking verbs serve a different purpose than helping verbs. They connect the subject of a sentence with a subject complement, which can be a noun, pronoun, or adjective that renames or describes the subject.

## Common Linking Verbs

The most common linking verb is "to be," which includes:

- am
- is
- are
- was
- were
- be
- being
- been

Other examples of linking verbs include:

- Become
- Seem
- Appear
- Feel
- Look
- Sound
- Taste
- Smell

## Functions of Linking Verbs

Linking verbs serve to:

- Connect the Subject to a Complement: For example, in "She is a teacher," "is" links "she" to her identity as a teacher.
- Express a State of Being or Condition: In "The soup smells delicious," "smells" links the subject "soup" to its quality.

## Creating a Helping and Linking Verbs Worksheet

When crafting a helping and linking verbs worksheet, it is vital to structure it in a way that is engaging and educational. Here are some steps and components to consider:

# 1. Title and Introduction

Start with a clear title such as "Helping and Linking Verbs Worksheet." Include a brief introduction that explains the purpose of the worksheet and what students will learn.

## 2. Definitions Section

Provide clear definitions for both helping and linking verbs. Use examples to illustrate each definition. For instance:

- Helping Verb: A verb that accompanies a main verb to help express tense, mood, or voice.
- Example: "She is running."
  
- Linking Verb: A verb that connects the subject with a subject complement.
- Example: "He is happy."

## 3. Identification Exercises

Create exercises where students have to identify helping and linking verbs in sentences. For example:

- Underline the helping verbs in the following sentences:
  1. She has been working hard.
  2. They are going to the concert.
  
- Circle the linking verbs in these sentences:
  1. The flowers look beautiful.
  2. He became a doctor.

## 4. Fill-in-the-Blanks Activity

Design fill-in-the-blank sentences where students must insert the correct helping or linking verb. For example:

- She \_\_\_ (is/was) playing the piano.
- The cake \_\_\_ (tastes/smells) amazing.

## 5. Sentence Creation

Encourage creativity by asking students to write their own sentences using a set number of helping and linking verbs. For instance:

- Write three sentences that include at least two helping verbs.

- Write three sentences that include at least one linking verb.

## **6. Matching Activity**

Create a matching section where students match verbs to their functions:

- Match the verb to its function:

1. is
2. have
3. seem
4. can

- a. Indicates ability
- b. Shows existence
- c. Connects subject to adjective
- d. Expresses possession

## **7. Answer Key**

Provide an answer key for self-assessment. This will help students check their work and understand any mistakes they made.

# **Activities to Reinforce Learning**

In addition to worksheets, there are various engaging activities that can reinforce the concepts of helping and linking verbs.

## **1. Verb Charades**

In this game, students act out verbs while the rest of the class guesses whether it is a helping verb or a linking verb. This activity promotes kinesthetic learning and helps reinforce the definitions through action.

## **2. Verb Scavenger Hunt**

Give students a list of sentences or paragraphs from books, articles, or their own writings. Have them go on a "verb scavenger hunt" to find and list all helping and linking verbs they encounter. This encourages reading comprehension and analytical skills.

### **3. Group Work and Peer Teaching**

Divide the class into small groups and assign each group a type of verb to focus on. They can create their own mini-lessons or presentations to teach the rest of the class about helping or linking verbs. This collaborative approach promotes engagement and reinforces their understanding through teaching.

## **Conclusion**

A helping and linking verbs worksheet is a versatile educational resource that can significantly enhance students' understanding of these crucial components of the English language. By providing clear definitions, engaging exercises, and interactive activities, educators can foster a classroom environment that encourages mastery of grammar. Understanding helping and linking verbs is not only vital for academic success but also for effective communication in everyday life. By implementing these worksheets and activities, teachers can help their students develop the skills they need to express themselves clearly and confidently.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are helping verbs and linking verbs?**

Helping verbs, also known as auxiliary verbs, accompany main verbs to form different tenses, moods, or voices. Linking verbs connect the subject of a sentence to a subject complement, often describing or identifying the subject.

### **Can you provide examples of helping verbs?**

Common helping verbs include 'is', 'are', 'was', 'were', 'have', 'has', 'will', and 'can'. For example, in the sentence 'She is running', 'is' is the helping verb that assists the main verb 'running'.

### **What are some examples of linking verbs?**

Examples of linking verbs include 'be', 'become', and 'seem'. For instance, in the sentence 'He is a teacher', 'is' serves as a linking verb connecting 'He' to 'teacher'.

### **How can a worksheet on helping and linking verbs benefit students?**

A worksheet can provide structured practice for students to identify and use helping and linking verbs correctly, enhancing their understanding of verb functions and improving their overall writing skills.

## **What activities might be included in a helping and linking verbs worksheet?**

Activities may include filling in blanks with appropriate helping or linking verbs, matching verbs to their definitions, and rewriting sentences to replace main verbs with linking or helping verbs.

## **How can teachers assess student understanding of helping and linking verbs using a worksheet?**

Teachers can assess understanding by reviewing completed worksheets for accuracy, observing students' ability to distinguish between helping and linking verbs, and evaluating their application in writing assignments.

## **Where can I find effective helping and linking verbs worksheets?**

Effective worksheets can be found on educational websites, teaching resource platforms, and in language arts textbooks. Many educators also create custom worksheets to fit specific learning objectives.

## **[Helping And Linking Verbs Worksheet](#)**

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