

Name _____

MAIN AND HELPING VERBS

RETEACHING: Main verbs show the main action in a sentence. Helping verbs help the main verb show tense. Helping verbs, such as *am, is, are, was, were, has, have, had, or will*, work with main verbs to tell when an action occurs.

A. Read each sentence. Underline the helping verb once and the main verb twice.

1. What will happen to the doughnuts?
2. Uncle Ulysses has equipped the lunchroom with labor-saving devices.
3. Homer was polishing the metal trimmings.
4. Uncle Ulysses had tinkered with the inside workings.
5. The Ladies' Club was gathering.
6. Homer will handle everything.
7. Mr. Gabby was talking to Homer about his job.
8. A chauffeur had helped a woman out of a black car.
9. Now she is wearing an apron.
10. She will need some nutmeg.

B. In each sentence, circle the main verb and underline the helping verb. Then identify when the action occurs by writing *past, present, or future*.

1. The lady had asked for baking powder. _____
2. The rings of batter will drop into the hot fat. _____
3. Homer is learning about the doughnut machine. _____
4. People will enjoy the doughnuts later. _____
5. Everyone has eaten Homer's doughnuts. _____
6. We are taking doughnuts for friends. _____