

Name: _____ Date: _____

Helping Verbs

Sometimes a verb is made up of more than one word. The verb parts that comes before the main verb are called helping verbs.

Example: The detective had parked her car in the lane.

Some sentences have two helping verbs before the main verb.

Example: Elaine should have won the race.

Sometimes the helping verb and the main verb are separated by words that are not verbs.

Loren did not remember his skates.

Here is a list of the most important helping verbs.

am	is	are
was	were	be
been	has	have
had	do	does
did	must	may
might	can	could
will	would	shall
should		

A. In each of the following sentences circle each main verb. Underline the helping verbs.

Example: The ground was covered with snow.

1. Now the boys will sing a song.
2. Roxanne should finish before eight o'clock.
3. I could never jump that high.
4. By three o'clock the girls had walked six kilometres.
5. Rita did not see the rattlesnake.
6. After school Dan and I will wash the car.
7. Fred will probably come about noon.
8. My brother might have eaten the cake.
9. The bus should have arrived at ten o'clock.
10. Charlie did not close the window.
11. The thieves must have broken the window.