Helping Verbs

These verbs help the main verb to express an action or a state of being.

The Helping Verbs:

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



****Together, the main verb and the helping verb(s) are called a **verb phrase**.

Ex: Many students <u>can speak</u> Spanish.

I <u>will learn</u> all the state capitals tonight.

The dog <u>should have been fed</u> by now.

Directions: Underline the verb phrase in each of the following sentences. Circle the helping verb(s). Remember: There might be more than one helping verb in a sentence.

- 1. The Petrified Forest (has) always attracted many tourists.
- 2. Their imaginations have been captured by its spectacular beauty.
- 3. Visitors to the forest can see the Painted Desert at the same time.
- 4. The colors of the desert do not remain the same for long.
- 5. Specimens of petrified wood are exhibited at the Visitor's Center.
- 6. Have you ever seen a piece of petrified wood?
- 7. A guide will gladly explain the process of petrifaction to you.
- 8. Visitors can purchase the wood as a souvenir.
- Walking tours of the Petrified Forest are not recommended for amateur hikers.
- 10. Hikes must be arranged with park rangers.