

Identifying verbs

Verbs tell us what people (or things) are doing or being. They can change according to the time being spoken about - **past, present or future**:

For example:

Sam **finished** his homework in the library.

In this sentence 'finished' is the verb (it says what Sam did with his homework in the past). 'Sam' is the **subject** of the sentence because the verb tells us what he did.

All sentences need a verb. Here are some examples:

Jenny **reads** the Metro on the train every morning.

That bicycle **belongs** to me.

Two verbs are sometimes put together, especially with verbs like **can, must, should**.

I **can see** the sea from my house.

You really **must see** the new Bond film.

We can also use more than one word to form a tense:

We **have been driving** for hours.

There can also be more than one verb in a sentence:

1. **When a verb is followed by an infinitive** (a verb with no tense, usually after 'to'):

The children **didn't want to go** home.

2. **When a sentence has two subjects:**

We'll **talk** about the party when Simon **comes** home. (The two subjects are 'We' and 'Simon'.)