

15.1

Linking Verbs • Practice 1

A linking verb joins a noun or pronoun at or near the beginning of a sentence with a word at or near the end. The word at the end identifies or describes the noun or pronoun.

LINKING VERBS					
Forms of Be				Other Linking Verbs	
am	am being	can be	have been	appear	seem
are	are being	could be	has been	become	smell
is	is being	may be	had been	feel	sound
was	was being	might be	could have been	grow	stay
were	were being	must be	may have been	look	taste
		shall be	might have been	remain	turn
		should be	must have been		
		will be	shall have been		
		would be	should have been		
			will have been		
			would have been		

Exercise 1 Recognizing Linking Verbs. Circle the linking verb in each sentence below. Then, underline the words that are linked by the verb.

EXAMPLE: Penny grew tall over the summer.

- Beginning violinists usually sound terrible for the first few weeks.
- Rail service in this area has been irregular recently.
- With Steven away on vacation, I am bored.
- The crowd became restless because of the long delay.
- Erica's friends were happy about her success.
- Jerry feels listless much of the time recently.
- Louisa should have been more careful about her facts.
- Those cookies smell delicious.
- Linus feels secure with his blanket.
- Alicia remained calm throughout the blackout.

Exercise 2 Adding Linking Verbs to Sentences. Complete each sentence below with an appropriate linking verb. Then, underline the two words that are linked by the verb.

EXAMPLE: Jason appeared nervous at the beginning of his speech.

- Nancy _____ lucky at winning the drawing.
- Some of the questions _____ hard to understand.
- The order _____ too large for one shipment.
- Dorothy _____ surprised to be back in Kansas.
- The store _____ open even after the fire.
- Phil _____ confused about the announcement.
- The weather _____ cold during the night.
- Luke _____ an actor in spite of his parents' objections.
- Jennie _____ excited about her news.
- M-m-m-m, something _____ good in here.