

In some cases, a verb phrase may also consist of an adverb or a preposition and its object that functions as a complement.

Examples:

Niket has never broken traffic rules.

Moushmi has always followed the teacher's instructions.

Note: If a verb phrase has an intransitive verb as its head word, it does not take an object. However, if the head word is a verb of incomplete predication, the verb phrase is followed by a complement.

Examples:

My sister and I had grown up on a farm.

They had elected Soundarya the captain of the basketball team.

1. Underline the verb phrases in the following sentences.

- (a) She will graduate next year.
- (b) The food must have been served in the dining hall.
- (c) The library has replaced all the old books with new ones.
- (d) Sahil is planning a world tour with his cousins.
- (e) The girls are rehearsing for their finale performance.
- (f) Waseem's family has been living in this area for three generations.
- (g) They had tried to contact the fire department.
- (h) We would have been here sooner if the traffic had not been so bad.



Verb phrases are of two kinds.

- Finite verb phrase
- Non-finite verb phrase
 - Infinitive phrase
 - Gerund phrase
 - Participle phrase

Note: Non-finite verb phrases are called so as their head words are structurally identified as forms of verbs (infinitives, gerunds and participles). However, a non-finite verb phrase does not function as a verb. Therefore, it does not show the tense and need not agree with the subject.

2. Underline the verb phrase and mention its function as predicate (P) or noun phrase modifier (NPM).

- (a) The dog has eaten all the biscuits. P
- (b) The building has been rebuilt as a library. P
- (c) The boy jumping on the sofa is my younger nephew. NPM
- (d) That man standing near the pillar is a famous author. NPM
- (e) The girls have ordered five cups of coffee and three pancakes. P
- (f) The woman wearing the blue blazer is my favourite lecturer. NPM
- (g) The four people arrested for theft were chased by the police for hours. NPM
- (h) The organisation started by these two young girls has won many accolades. NPM

3. Underline the non-finite verb phrases and mention their types in the blanks.

- (a) Sunil's primary interest is working with children. Gerund
- (b) I usually use GPS to navigate around the city. Infinitive
- (c) I decided to bring my niece along with me for the picnic. Infinitive
- (d) Falling sick changed Divya's outlook towards studying throughout the night. Participle
- (e) Having broken the window, the ball fell inside the library. Participle
- (f) Remember to leave for the airport on time as we have a flight at 8 p.m. Infinitive
- (g) We planned to perform a play for the annual function. Infinitive
- (h) Injured during the practice match, the captain couldn't participate in the finals. Participle

4. Complete the sentences given below with appropriate verb phrases from the box.

c had eaten d is waiting a will have received will depart f
 b had been closed e was feeling g had woken up h were donated

- (a) He will have received the letter by the time he reaches home.
- (b) The library had been closed for several months.

- (c) Sahil felt sick because he had eaten too much.
- (d) We must hurry because everyone is waiting for us.
- (e) Preeti was feeling hot, so she opened the window.
- (f) The train will depart in an hour.
- (g) The dogs had woken up the entire neighbourhood.
- (h) These antique artefacts were donated to the museum by an archaeologist.

5. Frame a verb phrase by adding an auxiliary verb to the following main verbs. Then, make a sentence using the verb phrase. One has been done for you.

(a) make

They could make ten cupcakes in less than thirty minutes.

(b) write

You must write the answers clearly.

(c) listen

You must listen to the teachers attentively in the class.

(d) watch

You should watch educational videos.

(e) pick

You should not pick an unknown call.

(f) break

Children should not break faith of their parents.

(g) assemble

We should assemble to save the earth from global warming.

(h) swim

I can swim upstream.

6. Identify the errors in the given sentences and rewrite them correctly.

(a) We gotten not have a lot of rainfall lately.

have not got

- (b) Krish need ^{might need} some help with his homework.
- (c) They waiting ^{have been waiting} have been for you for over an hour.
- (d) We go ^{will go} to the library again tomorrow.
- (e) She has making ^{has been making} been snacks for everyone all day.
- (f) I write ^{will write to them} to them tomorrow.
- (g) I been had thinking ^{had been thinking} about her when she called.
- (h) By next year, we have will been working ^{will have been working} here for five years.

Recap

- Phrases that consist of a main verb and perform the role of the verb in sentences are called **verb phrases**. They may also consist of auxiliary verbs. For example, *we have been waiting for the results for two days*.
- A verb phrase can perform two functions in a sentence.
 - As part of the predicate: *We have been talking for hours*.
 - As noun phrase modifier: *The girl waiting at the station is my friend*.
- Verb phrases are of two kinds.
 - Finite verb phrase: *The guests will be seated in the auditorium*.
 - Non-finite verb phrase are of three types.
 - Infinitive phrase: *Kiara stayed awake to complete her assignment*.
 - Gerund phrase: *Taking walks in the garden has become my favourite activity*.
 - Participle phrase: *Clogged with waste, the drain started to overflow*.