**Verbs: The Action Words**

**1. Definition:**

Verbs are words that express actions, occurrences, or states of being. They are the most critical part of a sentence, as they provide the action or the "doing" in a sentence.

**2. Types of Verbs:**

***Action Verbs:*** These verbs describe a physical or mental action.

**Example:** She runs every morning.

***Linking Verbs:*** These verbs connect the subject to a subject complement (predicate nominative or predicate adjective) and describe a state of being.

**Example:** He is a teacher. ("Is" links the subject "He" to the predicate nominative "teacher.")

***Helping Verbs (Auxiliary Verbs):*** These verbs accompany the main verb to express tense, mood, voice, or emphasis.

**Example:** She is reading a book. ("Is" is a helping verb that works with the main verb "reading" to indicate the present continuous tense.)

**3. Verb Tenses:**

Verbs can be used in different tenses to indicate when an action occurs. Common verb tenses include:

***Present:*** Describes actions happening right now.

**Example:** They write a letter.

***Past:*** Describes actions that have already happened.

**Example:** She visited Paris.

***Future:*** Describes actions that will happen.

**Example:** We will travel tomorrow.

***Present Continuous:*** Describes actions happening at the moment or around the present time.

**Example:** They are playing soccer.

***Past Continuous:*** Describes actions that were ongoing in the past.

**Example:** She was reading a book.

***Future Continuous:*** Describes actions that will be ongoing in the future.

**Example:** They will be working tomorrow.

**4. Verb Agreement:**

Verbs must agree with the subject in number (singular or plural) and person (first person, second person, third person).

***Example:*** She goes to school. (Third person singular)

***Example:*** We study together. (First person plural)

**5. Infinitive Verbs:**

Infinitive verbs are the base form of verbs (usually preceded by "to") and are used in various contexts, such as to express purpose or to show what someone can or cannot do.

***Example:*** She likes to read books.

**6. Transitive and Intransitive Verbs:**

Transitive verbs require a direct object to complete their meaning.

***Example:*** He ate (transitive) the pizza.

Intransitive verbs do not require a direct object.

***Example:*** She slept (intransitive) soundly.

**7. Modal Verbs:**

Modal verbs **(**such as **can, could, may, might, will, would, shall, should, must)** are used to indicate ability, possibility, permission, necessity, or obligation.

***Example:*** He can play the piano.