

UNIT 3 – VERB FORMS

Verbs

In the blank to the left, write the correct verb form for each of the verbs in the sentences. You are given the present form. Choose either the past or past participle form.

1. _____ Has this error been (bring) to your attention.
2. _____ Mickey Mantle backed up to the fence and (catch) the ball.
3. _____ The guide (lead) us deeper into the cave.
4. _____ Harriet (lend) me her coat.
5. _____ The general (lead) the survivors to safety.
6. _____ We have already (beat) the best teams in the league.
7. _____ Two of the best students were (choose) to write the bulletin.
8. _____ The band hasn't (wear) its new uniforms yet.
9. _____ Our mailman was (bite) by a neighbor's dog this morning.
10. _____ Has anyone (speak) to you about paying your class dues?
11. _____ Suddenly everyone (begin) to laugh.
12. _____ A Spanish galleon had once (sink) off this shore.
13. _____ Dick (drink) his milk in one gulp and dashed out the door.
14. _____ The witness (swear) he had been nowhere near the fire.
15. _____ The pumps (run) all night to keep the ship afloat.
16. _____ Andy had never (ride) on a camel before.
17. _____ Harry looked as if he had (see) a ghost.
18. _____ Two of the guards were (slay) during the night.
19. _____ Everything has (go) wrong today.
20. _____ The hurricane had (blow) the roofs off houses.
21. _____ The doctor's bag had been (take) by mistake.
22. _____ How many people (come) to see the exhibit?
23. _____ Mr. Case (drive) the school bus last year.
24. _____ The crops have (grow) fast in the last two weeks.
25. _____ Jim has never (know) what real hunger is.

Troublesome Pairs

Because of the likeness in spelling and the closeness of meaning, several pairs of verbs confuse students. Let's examine these verbs.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Past</u>	<u>Past Participle</u>
Lie	Lay	Lain
Lay	Laid	Laid

Notice the likenesses of the principal parts. The present of lay and the past of lie are the same. To know which verb is being used, decide the tense of the verb and look at the meaning of the sentence.

Lay means to put or place an object. Lay will usually have a direct object because the subject will put or place something

Lie means to rest, to recline, or to be in a horizontal position. There is no object following the verb.

Choose the correct form of the verb and write it in the blank to the left.

1. _____ Our books (laid, lay) where we had left them.
2. _____ Miss Brown had (laid, lain) down for a nap.
3. _____ No one ever (lay, laid) the papers on the desk.
4. _____ Last week we (lay, laid) the cornerstone for the new school.
5. _____ Betsy told the dog to (lie, lay) down.
6. _____ Your purse was (lying, laying) in the middle of the path.
7. _____ This factory had (lain, laid) idle for six months.
8. _____ The boys were (lying, laying) comfortably in the shade.
9. _____ Jack and his father were (lying, laying) a new floor in the kitchen.
10. _____ Jane had (lain, laid) her books on the counter.

Another troublesome pair is sit and set. Their principal parts are similar, but not the same.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Past</u>	<u>Past Participle</u>
Sit	Sat	Sat
Set	Set	Set

Set means to put or place an object; therefore, set usually has a direct object. Sit means to rest in a seated position, and it seldom has an object.

A good way to determine which verb should be used in the sentence is to substitute the word place for set. If the meaning of the sentence is not changed with the place, then use set as a correct verb.

EXAMPLE : Linda will (sit, set) the bowl on the table.
 Linda will place the bowl on the table.
 Linda will set the bowl on the table.

Thus, if the word place does not change the meaning of the sentence, the verb set, which means to place, is correct. In certain expressions where set is used without an object, the “place test” will not work.

Choose the correct form of the verb and write it in the blank to the left.

1. _____ Several students were (setting, sitting) at the table.
2. _____ Please don't (set, sit) on the arm of the chair.
3. _____ You can (sit, set) the pail in the corner.
4. _____ A lady (sat, set) the machine to run for ten minutes.
5. _____ There must have been a hundred birds (sitting, setting) on the telephone pole.

6. _____ How long has this machine been (sitting, setting) here?
7. _____ Marion was too nervous to (set, sit) still.
8. _____ A pitcher of water has been (sat, set) at the end of the speaker's stand.
9. _____ Everyone (set, sat) quietly during Stan's talk.
10. _____ Where did you (sit, set) the stereo?

Rise and raise, a third troublesome pair, can be distinguished like the other verb pairs. Raise means to lift up something. Raise takes a direct object. Rise, on the other hand, means to get up, and has no object.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Past</u>	<u>Past Participle</u>
Rise	Rose	Risen
Raise	Raised	Raised

Choose the correct verb form and write it in the blank at the left.

1. _____ The outlying provinces had (raised, risen) in revolt.
2. _____ We had not intended to (rise, raise) such a commotion.
3. _____ Costs of production have continued to (rise, raise).
4. _____ Immediately, the merchants (raised, rose) their prices.
5. _____ A storm of protest (rose, raised) against the new taxes.
6. _____ The curtain was (rising, raising) as we took our seats.
7. _____ At once, seven boys (rose, raised) their hands.
8. _____ A strange odor seemed to (rise, raise) from the old trunk.
9. _____ Beth has hesitated to (raise, rise) her voice.
10. _____ New buildings have (risen, raised) on every street.

Verbs

Locate the verbs in the following sentences and place them in the blanks provided. Be sure to include all helping verbs.

1. _____ He will fall off the bicycle.
2. _____ Have you been sitting here as long as I?
3. _____ We are driving through a fog.
4. _____ Was the car driven before?
5. _____ The cat drank all of her milk.
6. _____ He has been lying on the couch.
7. _____ Have you eaten yet?
8. _____ My seat was taken by a stranger.
9. _____ The bells had rung for an hour.
10. _____ Our dog is lying on his back.

UNIT 3 – GETTING YOUR VERB FORM RIGHT (ANSWERS)

Verb Forms

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|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Brought | 2. Caught | 3. Led | 4. Lent | 5. Led | 6. Beaten |
| 7. Chosen | 8. Worn | 9. Bitten | 10. Spoken | 11. Began | 12. Sunk |
| 13. Drank | 14. Swore | 15. Ran | 16. Ridden | 17. Seen | 18. Slain |
| 19. Gone | 20. Blown | 21. Taken | 22. Came | 23. Drove | 24. Grown |
| 25. Known | | | | | |

Troublesome Pairs

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|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 1. Lay | 2. Lain | 3. Laid | 4. Laid | 5. Lie | 6. Lying |
| 7. Lain | 8. Lying | 9. Laying | 10. Laid | | |
| 1. Sitting | 2. Sit | 3. Set | 4. Set | 5. Sitting | 6. Sitting |
| 7. Sit | 8. Set | 9. Sat | 10. Set | | |
| 1. Risen | 2. Raise | 3. Rise | 4. Raised | 5. Rose | 6. Rising |
| 7. Raised | 8. Rise | 9. Raise | 10. Risen | | |

Verbs

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|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Will fall | 2. Have been sitting | 3. Are Driving | 4. Was driven | 5. Drank |
| 6. Has been lying | 7. Have eaten | 8. Was taken | 9. Had rung | 10. Is lying |