

### 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

- |            |           |           |            |           |           |
|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 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

- |            |          |           |           |            |            |
|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 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

- |                   |                      |                |               |              |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 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 |