

Read and Discover

Action Verbs and Linking Verbs

Lesson 14

The sun is an ordinary star. Ninety percent of the stars we can see from Earth are main-sequence stars like our sun.

Which boldfaced verb connects a noun with a phrase that describes it?
_____ Which boldfaced verb shows action? _____

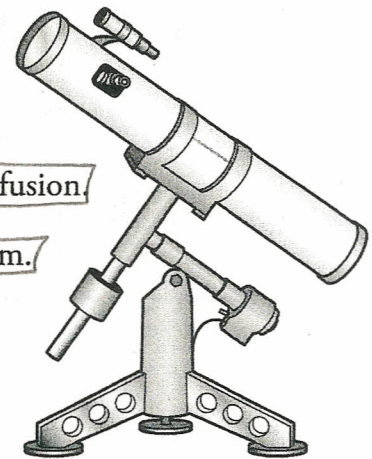
An **action verb** shows action. A **linking verb** does not show action. Instead, a linking verb connects the subject of a sentence to one or more words that describe or rename the subject. Linking verbs are usually forms of *be*; some of these are *am, is, are, was, were, and will be*. *Become, seem, appear, and look* can also be used as linking verbs.

See Handbook Section 17

Part 1

Circle each action verb. Underline each linking verb. Be sure to include helping verbs such as *can, would, may, and have*.

1. Scientists **observe** stars as tiny as 12 miles in diameter and as big as a billion miles in diameter.
2. The sun **is** about 4.6 billion years old.
3. The average age of a star **is** between one million and ten billion years.
4. Stars **can last** as long as 15 billion years.
5. A star **begins** its life as a cloud of hydrogen gas and dust.
6. Hydrogen, the lightest chemical element, **is** highly flammable.
7. Over millions of years, the cloud's **gravity** pulls it into a ball.
8. The ball's center **becomes** extremely hot.
9. Temperatures of two million degrees Fahrenheit **result** in nuclear fusion.
10. Fusion slowly **changes** the hydrogen in the ball's center into helium.
11. Helium **is** a very light, unburnable gas.
12. Nuclear fusion **releases** energy.
13. The ball's outer layer **becomes** heated.
14. Then the newborn star **shines**.



Amateur astronomers watch the stars through telescopes.

HINT: Box PP -
your verb will not be in PP