

Grammar: Verb Phrases

OBJECTIVES:

Students should understand that...

- a. Participles are verbals (words derived from verbs)
- b. "Perfect" verb phrases require a form of "have" + a past participle verb.
- c. "Progressive" verb phrases require a form of "be" + a present participle verb.
- d. Both "perfect" and "progressive" verb phrases can be in the past, present, or future tense.

Students should be able to...

- a. Identify examples of "perfect" and "progressive" verb phrases in all three tenses.
- b. Write correct sentences that contain "perfect" and "progressive" verb phrases.
- c. Choose the most effective type of verb phrase to convey the desired meaning.

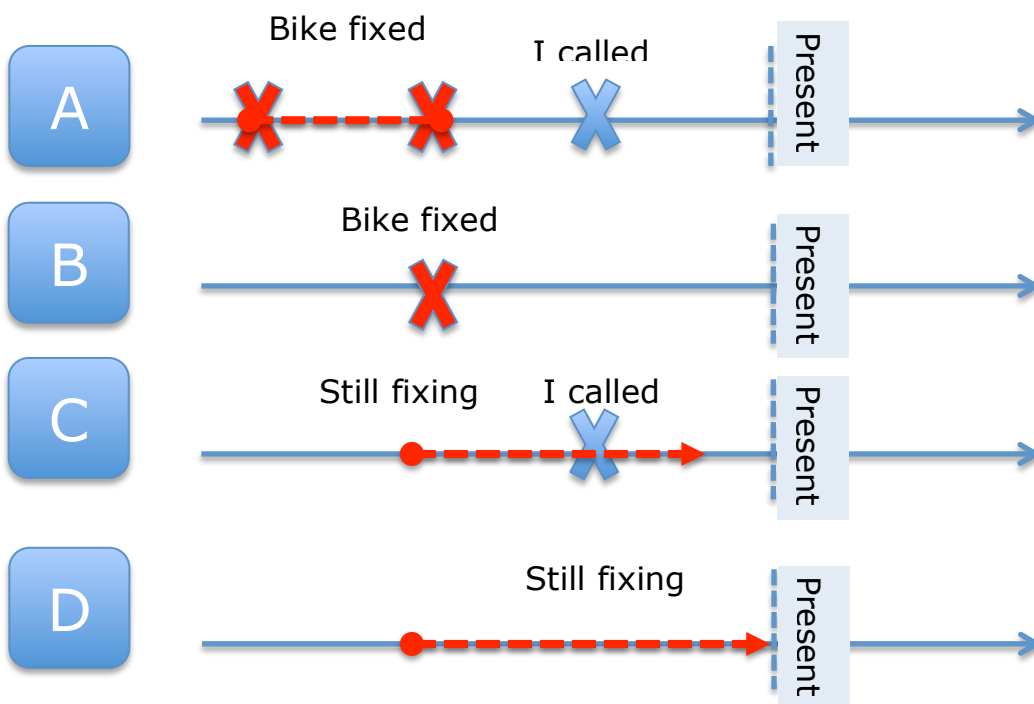
This unit contains example sentences/selections from *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson.



Grammar: Verb Phrases

PRE-TEST: Read the following sentences and decide which visual representation matches each sentence.

- B 1. Dan fixed the bike last week.
 C 2. Dan was fixing the bike when I called.
 A 3. Dan had fixed the bike, so I called to pick it up.
 D 4. Dan has fixed bikes for the past 3 years.



Grammar: Participles

A **present participle** is a verb that ends in –ing (same as a **gerund**, except that gerunds act as nouns while present participles still act as verbs.)

A **past participle** is a verb that often ends in –ed or –en (except with irregular verbs).

Change the following verbs into past participle and present participle verb forms. (Be careful for irregular verbs!)

	present participle	past participle
1. give	<i>giving</i>	<i>given</i>
2. arrive	<i>arriving</i>	<i>arrived</i>
3. write	<i>writing</i>	<i>written</i>
4. live	<i>living</i>	<i>lived</i>
5. break	<i>breaking</i>	<i>broken</i>
6. fight	<i>fighting</i>	<i>fought*</i>
7. work	<i>working</i>	<i>worked</i>
8. sell	<i>selling</i>	<i>sold*</i>
9. help	<i>helping</i>	<i>helped</i>
10. take	<i>taking</i>	<i>taken</i>



Grammar: Perfect Tense

A “perfect” verb phrase uses the verb “have” plus a past participle verb. Remember, a past participle verb is a verb that often ends in –ed or –en like “seen”, “taken,” “talked,” or “done.”

had + past participle = past perfect

Example: Utterson had refused to let the will be drafted by his clerk.

have/has + past participle = present perfect

Example: For ten years Jekyll has become more and more fanciful.

will have + past participle = future perfect

Example: “You will have earned the everlasting gratitude of Dr. Jekyll.”

In the following sentences, replace the simple verb with a “perfect” verb phrase, but keep the tense—so if it’s past-tensed verb, make it a past perfect verb phrase:

1. Gary and Wilson **walked** to the baseball field.
*Gary and Wilson **had walked** to the baseball field.*
2. Hundreds of kids **gather** on the field for tryouts.
*Hundreds of kids **have gathered** on the field for tryouts.*
3. The boys and girls **will show** their skills to many coaches.
*The boys and girls **will have shown*** their skills to many coaches.*
4. The boys’ parents **watch** from the bleachers.
*The boys’ parents **have watched** from the bleachers.*
5. The All-Star Summer Camp **will choose** just twenty-five campers.
*The All-Star Summer Camp **will have chosen** just twenty-five campers.*



Grammar: Progressive Tense

A “progressive” verb phrase uses the verb “be” plus a present participle verb. Remember, a present participle verb is a verb that often ends in –ing like “reading,” “playing,” or “doing.”

was/were + present participle = past progressive

Example: Utterson had refused to let the will be drafted by his clerk.

am/is/are + present participle = present progressive

Example: For ten years Jekyll has become more and more fanciful.

will be + present participle = future progressive

Example: “You will have earned the everlasting gratitude of Dr. Jekyll.”

In the following sentences, replace the simple verb with a “progressive” verb phrase, but keep the tense—so if it’s past-tensed verb, make it a past progressive verb phrase:

1. Bailey **waits** for the bus to stop in front of her house.
*Bailey **is waiting** for the bus to stop in front of her house.*
2. She **checks** her backpack to make sure she has her lunch.
*She **is checking** her backpack to make sure she has her lunch.*
3. Her mom **packed** a special sandwich while Bailey **brushed** her teeth.
*Her mom **was packing** a special sandwich while Bailey **was brushing** her teeth.*
4. The driver **will take** her to Clarkson Middle School.
*The driver **will be taking** her to Clarkson Middle School.*
5. She **will sit** next to her best friend, Vivian.
*She **will be sitting** next to her best friend, Vivian.*



Name _____

Date _____

Grammar: REVIEW

In the following excerpt, underline “progressive” verb phrases twice and “perfect” verb phrases once.

As I was crossing the courtyard after breakfast, the same shudder I had felt in the park came over me again. I was seized by the sensations that announced the change. There was just enough time for me to rush to my office...and then Hyde stood there where Jekyll had been.

In the following excerpt, chose the most effective verb or verb phrase.

As soon as you (**were reading** / **have read**) this letter, go to my house. Poole, my butler, (**was receiving** / **has received**) written instructions and expects you. He (**will be waiting** / **will have waited**) with a carpenter and a locksmith. The door to my office is to be forced open. You will then enter alone.



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Grammar QUIZ: Verb Phrases

In the following sentences, underline the verb phrase and decide if the underline verb phrase is past, present, future perfect OR past, present, future progressive.

1. Heidi was playing near her favorite tree.
Past progressive
2. We all have eaten something delicious before.
Present perfect
3. Leo will be coming to the party this afternoon.
Future progressive
4. Jemma has counted seven missing books.
Past perfect
5. The students were studying in the library.
Past progressive
6. Lisa is writing an article for the school newspaper.
Present progressive
7. High School seniors will have spent over 18 years in school.
Future perfect
8. Have you ever felt frightened before?
Present perfect

