

## 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.

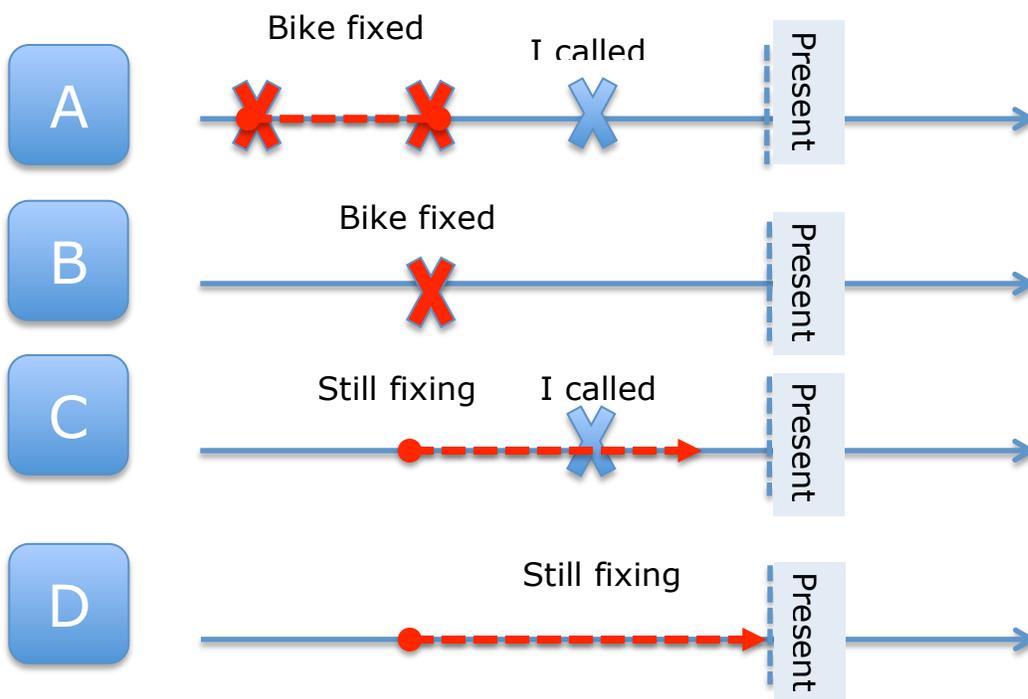
This unit contains example sentences/selections from *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson.



## Grammar: Verb Phrases

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

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



## Grammar: Participles

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

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.)

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

	present participle	past participle
1. give		
2. arrive		
3. write		
4. live		
5. break		
6. fight		
7. work		
8. sell		
9. help		
10. buy		



## 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.
2. Hundreds of kids **gather** on the field for tryouts.
3. The boys and girls **will show** their skills to many coaches.
4. The boys’ parents **watch** from the bleachers.
5. The all-star summer camp **will choose** 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.” A progressive verb is an *act in progress*.

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.
2. She **checks** her backpack to make sure she has her lunch.
3. Her mom **packed** a special sandwich while Bailey **brushed** her teeth.
4. The driver **will take** her to Clarkson Middle School.
5. She **will sit** next to her best friend, Vivian.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar: REVIEW

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

The envelope read: “Dr. Jekyll’s Will.” The will was hand written by the respected doctor himself, because Utterson had refused to let the will be drafted by his clerk. He had been too shocked by its contents when Jekyll first approached him, and he was still shocked. For friendship’s sake only, he had consented to be the guardian of the will and to present it to the courts if it became necessary to do so.

In the following excerpt, choose 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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activity by: Tamara Copeland-Samaripa

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

