

File: ESLBO_ToBeVerb_20260131
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2.4.2 - TO BE verb

Previously, the definition of a verb is a word that **describes an action**.

There is a special verb called the **Be** verb.

The Be verb describes a **state of being**,

A **state of being** describes **how someone or something is** rather than what they *do*. It's about **condition, existence, or status**, not an action.

The forms of the **be** verb

- **am**
- **is**
- **are**
- **was**
- **were**
- **be**
- **been**
- **being**

These verbs link the subject to a state, such as:

- ***She is happy.*** → state of emotion
- ***They are tired.*** → state of condition
- ***The sky is blue.*** → state of description
- ***He was a student.*** → state of identity

Question:

Give an example of a verb using an action versus the BE verb?

Action Verb

Shows what someone does.

- ***He jumps over the puddle.***
(jumps = action)

BE Verb

Shows a state of being, not an action.

- *He is excited.*
(is = state of being)

Action Verb vs. BE Verb Practice

Directions

**Read each verb below. Decide whether it is an ACTION verb or a BE verb.
Write A for Action or B for Be verb.**

Practice Set (15 verbs)

1. run
2. is
3. jump
4. are
5. think
6. was
7. swim
8. were
9. shout
10. am
11. write
12. be
13. dance
14. been
15. Being

Answers:

1. Run (action)
2. Is (be verb)
3. jump (action)
4. are
5. Think (action)
6. was
7. Swim (action)
8. were
9. Shout (action)
10. am
11. Write (action)
12. be
13. Dance (action)
14. been
15. Being