

NAME

Lesson 8.1 Verbs

(pp. 161–162)

EXERCISE 1 Identifying Action and Linking Verbs

Underline the verb in each sentence. Write *A* if it is an action verb. If it is a linking verb, write *L*.

Hint

A linking verb joins the subject to a word that identifies or describes the subject. It does not express action.

EXAMPLE L The article was extremely interesting.

- _____ 1. In 2008, a fisherman caught an unusual fish in the Pacific Ocean.
- _____ 2. Part of a handwritten letter stuck to the side of the fish.
- _____ 3. Fifteen years before, a young Japanese schoolgirl released the letter into the sky.
- _____ 4. She placed it in a balloon as part of a school project.
- _____ 5. The fisherman seemed amazed at his discovery.

EXERCISE 2 Finding Verbs

In the sentences below, underline main verbs once and helping verbs twice.

Remember: *Not* is never part of a verb phrase.

1. In September 1944 during World War II, Albert Smith was killed in combat in Holland.
2. A month earlier, he had written a letter to his childhood friend Bill Sellars in South Carolina.
3. Unbelievably, the letter did not reach Sellars for sixty-four years.
4. Smith's letter was not delivered.
5. After Smith's death, the letter, along with other personal items, was sent in a package to Smith's family.
6. Did any of Smith's family members open the package right away? No.
7. Not until 2008 did Smith's brother Woodrow finally sort through the box.
8. The box had been sitting in Woodrow's house for years.
9. Amazingly, Woodrow and Bill had known each other for years.
10. Can you imagine Bill's surprise at the long-lost letter?