

## Action Verbs

**12b.** An **action verb** is a verb that expresses either physical or mental activity.

**EXAMPLES** John Muir **wrote** about Yosemite National Park.  
Eileen **imagined** the scene.

**EXERCISE A** Underline the action verb in each of the following sentences.

**Examples** 1. Jon and I hiked for several miles.

2. Both of us admired the brilliant fall foliage.

1. Jon collected gold, red, and yellow leaves.
2. He carefully placed them in his backpack.
3. I wondered why.
4. Later, he told me about his plan.
5. He knew of a market for these beautiful leaves.
6. A local craft shop buys the leaves for craft classes.
7. For example, the class on greeting cards uses colorful leaves regularly.
8. The art classes always want leaves, too.
9. Artists incorporate the foliage into collages.
10. People enjoy the “back to nature” tone of this artwork.

**EXERCISE B** Underline each action verb in the following sentences. Then, identify the type of action of the verb by writing above it *P* for *physical action* or *M* for *mental action*.

**Examples** 1. My mother <sup>P</sup>makes delicious red beans and rice.

2. Today, however, I <sup>M</sup>crave Cajun gumbo.

11. I remember my great-grandmother’s recipe for gumbo.
12. The shrimp, vegetables, and spices simmer together.
13. I always drop a little hot pepper sauce into the pot.
14. Meanwhile, white rice steams until tender.
15. I prefer this mild rice along with the spicy gumbo.

## Chapter 12: Parts of Speech

### Overview, pp. 45–67

#### Choices: Investigating Parts of Speech, p. 45

Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students' understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

#### The Verb, p. 46

##### EXERCISE

1. The giraffe's neck forms about half of its height.
2. The giraffe has a short tufted mane on its long neck.
3. A mature giraffe is approximately eighteen feet tall.
4. All giraffes develop two to four horns.
5. Reddish brown splotches highlight their pale brown coats.

6. The glass snake is actually a legless lizard.
7. Some people call them glass lizards.
8. These lizards live in North America, Eurasia, and Africa.
9. Their smooth skins are usually brown or green.
10. A groove runs along each side of the glass snake's body.
11. The glowworm is a wingless female beetle.
12. Organs inside these beetles and their larvae emit a glow.
13. *Firefly* is the term for the male.
14. The male, not the female, flies.
15. Hares are large members of the rabbit family.
16. Many adult hares weigh up to ten pounds.
17. The ears of a hare are longer than its head.
18. The fur of the arctic hare turns white in winter for camouflage.
19. Its ears are shorter than the ears of the Mediterranean brown hare.
20. The jack rabbit is a familiar North American hare.

#### Action Verbs, p. 47

##### EXERCISE A

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6. A local craft shop buys the leaves for craft classes.
7. For example, the class on greeting cards uses colorful leaves regularly.
8. The art classes always want leaves, too.
9. Artists incorporate the foliage into collages.
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#### EXERCISE B

11. I remember my great-grandmother’s recipe for gumbo.
12. The shrimp, vegetables, and spices simmer together.
13. I always drop a little hot pepper sauce into the pot.
14. Meanwhile, white rice steams until tender.
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#### Linking Verbs, p. 48

##### EXERCISE A

1. The huge diamond mine is now a museum.
2. The computerized voice sounds human to me.

3. After the storm, the islanders grew nervous at the sight of all the dark clouds.
4. Some of the bristlecone pine trees are very old.
5. The farm animals looked quite content.

#### EXERCISE B

6. Burr became one of the most colorful characters in U.S. history.
7. Burr came from a well-known Puritan family.
8. At age twenty-one, he was a commanding officer of an entire regiment.
9. He resigned in 1779 because of ill health.
10. Later, Burr practiced law.
11. He almost always looked healthy and successful.
12. Burr and Alexander Hamilton were long-time enemies.
13. Burr fought a duel with Hamilton.
14. Hamilton died from his wound.
15. Burr’s political career was soon over.

#### Helping Verbs and Main Verbs, p. 49

##### EXERCISE A

1. Perhaps we should learn more about birthday celebrations in various countries.
2. Mexicans will sometimes buy a piñata for a birthday party.