Lesson 36

Regular Verbs: Principal Parts

Verbs have four main parts: a base form, a present participle, a simple past, and a past participle. A regular verb forms its past and past participle by adding -ed or -d to the base form. All verbs form the present participle by adding -ing to the base form. Both the present participle and past participle require a helping verb.

- **Base Form:** The sisters talk to each other every day.
- **Present Participle:** The sisters are talking about their summer vacations.
- **Past Form:** The sisters talked earlier this morning.
- **Past Participle:** The sisters have talked often about their children.

**Exercise 1** Complete each sentence by writing the form of the verb indicated in parentheses.

1. Grandma has _________ discussed her childhood. (past participle/discuss)
2. Clancy is _____________ for his hockey stick. (present participle/search)
3. Yesterday he _____________ high and low but with no luck. (past/hunt)
4. Clancy and his twin sister, June, have often _____________ what happened to their belongings. (past participle/wonder)
5. Last week Clancy _____________ his softball and glove on the kitchen table before he went to his room to study. (past/place)
6. When he came back, Clancy _____________ his ball and glove under the stove. (past/discover)
7. Recently, June _____________ a muddy trail outside, where she found the dirty boots she had left in the hallway. (past/follow)
8. Clancy and June are _____________ if they should hire a private detective to find the culprit. (present participle/wonder)
9. Clancy and June have _____________ to leave one of their belongings in a certain place and then watch to see what happens. (past participle/decide)
10. They _____________ a baseball glove in the kitchen. (base form/leave)
11. However, their dogs _____________ to go for a walk. (base form/want)
12. Fido and Spike, who _____________ to see them, jump up eagerly when they open the door. (base form/love)
13. On their walk, Clancy and June see that the dogs have _____________ a spot under the fence. (past participle/burrow)
13. Curious, they hurry over to the hole the dogs have ____________. (past participle/excavate)

14. Looking into the hole, they ________________ with laughter. (base form/howl)

15. There in the hole are ________________ three of their missing items—a scarf, a pair of gloves, and a knee pad. (present participle/rest)

16. “We have ________________ the mystery,” Clancy laughs. (past participle/solve)

17. “When you see us with a ball or a glove, you know we are ___________ you,” adds June. (present participle/abandon)

18. “You ________________ that if we don’t have our belongings, we can’t leave you,” says Clancy. (base form/reason)


20. “From now on you can go with us and ________________ from the sidelines,” the twins agree. (base form/watch)

► Exercise 2 Write the three principal parts of each verb—present participle, past, and past participle.

- cough: coughing, coughed, coughed
- admit: admitting, admitted, admitted
- study: studying, studied, studied
- hike: hiking, hiked, hiked
- return: returning, returned, returned
- complete: completing, completed, completed
- refuse: refusing, refused, refused
- plot: plotting, plotted, plotted
- pitch: pitching, pitched, pitched
- dance: dancing, danced, danced
- elect: electing, elected, elected
- recycle: recycling, recycled, recycled
- conserve: conserving, conserved, conserved
- disappear: disappearing, disappeared, disappeared
- tape: taping, taped, taped
- practice: practicing, practiced, practiced
Lesson 37
Irregular Verbs: Principal Parts

Irregular verbs form their past and past participle in ways different from the -ed and -d additions used for regular verbs. See the examples below for the verb to be.

**Present Participle:** I am being very patient with you.
**Past Form:** I was sixteen yesterday. You were at my party.
**Past Participle:** I have been happy today.

The principal parts of some common irregular verbs are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base Form</th>
<th>Present Participle</th>
<th>Past Form</th>
<th>Past Participle</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>break</td>
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Notice that these verbs, though irregular, still form their present participle form by adding -ing.

**Exercise 1** Underline the word in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence. In the space provided, identify the form of the verb used as base form, present participle, past form, or past participle.

**base form** My fish (swim, swimming) all day long.

1. Howard (spoke, speaking) for one hour.
2. How many miles have you (drive, driven) today?
3. The chorus (sung, sang) the school song.
4. I (know, known) how much Carla likes horses.
5. I (think, thought) of the answer after the test.
6. We are (giving, given) some money to the hunger center.
7. Marsha has not (wrote, written) to me lately.
8. The team has (gone, went) to the scrimmage early.
9. I hope the birthday gift has (came, come) in time.
10. She has (did, done) that assignment already.
11. My pets often (break, broke) things while I am away.
12. They (say, saying) we can borrow their video.
13. Are you (tell, telling) me you have the flu?
14. We (seen, saw) the lovely sunset yesterday.
15. The neighbors are (having, have) a party tonight.
16. What are you (doing, done) for Thanksgiving?
17. The explorer has (spoke, spoken) to the group before.
18. She has (gave, given) the problem much thought.
19. Cara just (wrote, write) in her journal.
20. I have (knew, known) Mr. Janus for years.
21. That music is (driven, driving) me crazy!
22. The club members (see, seen) a movie once a week.
23. We have (thought, think) of a name for the baby.
24. Deliveries (come, coming) early in our neighborhood.
25. I’m (tell, telling) you I don’t know!
26. The climber (gone, went) to the top of the cliff.
27. I have (break, broken) two glasses today.
28. They have (say, said) they are sorry.
29. I (gave, given) you a snack already!
30. She has (driving, driven) that route many times.
31. Who is (sang, singing) in the shower?
32. I (told, tell) you I would think about it.
33. We have (had, have) enough of this noise!
34. Stan has (did, done) his good deed for today.
35. I (known, knew) I had seen you before.
36. With his new glasses, he is (seen, seeing) more clearly.