

APC English

Verb Phrases

noun phrases

- A noun phrase consists of a noun and its modifiers.
- Modifiers include articles, adjectives, and other elements that provide more information about the noun.
 - **The happy cat**
 - **Two delicious slices of pizza**

prepositional phrases

- A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and includes a noun (or pronoun) called the object of the preposition.
- It provides information about the relationship of the noun to the rest of the sentence.
 - **on the table**
 - **under the bridge**

verb phrases

- A verb phrase includes the main verb and its auxiliary (helping) verbs, if any. It represents the action or state of being in a sentence.
 - **Is studying** for the exam
 - **Will have completed** the project

so,

noun phrases have modifiers

verb phrases have helping verbs

verbs

verbs - what we know

A verb is a word used to express an action, a feeling or a state of being.

- She is riding a bike
- He kicks the ball
- We learn English

<https://www.alps.academy/learn-english-verbs/>

verb tense - what we know

present simple

I **work** today

past simple

I **worked** yesterday

future simple

I **will work** tomorrow

<https://www.alps.academy/learn-english-verb-tenses/>

Present

- Present Simple: - I **walk** to the park every day.
- Present Continuous: - I am **walking** to the park right now.
- Present Perfect: - I **have walked** to the park many times.
- Present Perfect Continuous: I **have been walking** to the park for hours.

Past

- Past Simple: - Yesterday, I **walked** to the park.
- Past Continuous: - While it was raining, I was **walking** to the park.
- Past Perfect: - By the time I arrived, I **had walked** to the park.
- Past Perfect Continuous: - I **had been walking** to the park when it started raining.

Future

- Future Simple: - Tomorrow, I **will walk** to the park.
- Future Continuous: - At 3 pm tomorrow, I will be **walking** to the park.
- Future Perfect: - By this time next year, I **will have walked** to the park 100 times.
- Future Perfect Continuous: -By the end of the week, I will **have been walking** to the park for seven days straight.

main verbs

verbs - what we know

- The main verb is the **key action or state of being** in a sentence.
- It expresses **the primary action** that the subject is doing or the state of being that the subject is in.
- It **stands alone as the primary verb** that conveys **the main meaning** of the sentence.

She **runs** every morning.

They **were** happy.

The cat **slept** peacefully

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main verb
= to walk

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introduction to verb phrases

verb phrases

A verb phrase **ends with a verb** and may have other 'helping' verbs before this main verb

the boy **kicks** the ball

- *main verb:* **to kick**
- *helping verb :* **x**

the boy **is kicking** the ball

- *main verb:* **to kick**
- *helping verb:* **is**

SVO

Sentences in English have a S-V-O structure

subject	verb	object
John	played with	the ball
He	was sleeping in	the bed
A woman	is watching	TV

Subject - is doing something (the verb)

Object - (verb) is doing to this

sentences

SVO subject - verb - object

(Thai, Chinese & English)

The boy kicked the ball

The boy (S) kicked (V) the ball (O)

nouns - boy, ball verb - kicked

Sentence SVO

Subject

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

Verb

kicked

hit

caught

punched

threw

ran with

Object

the ball

the ball

the ball

the ball

the ball

the ball

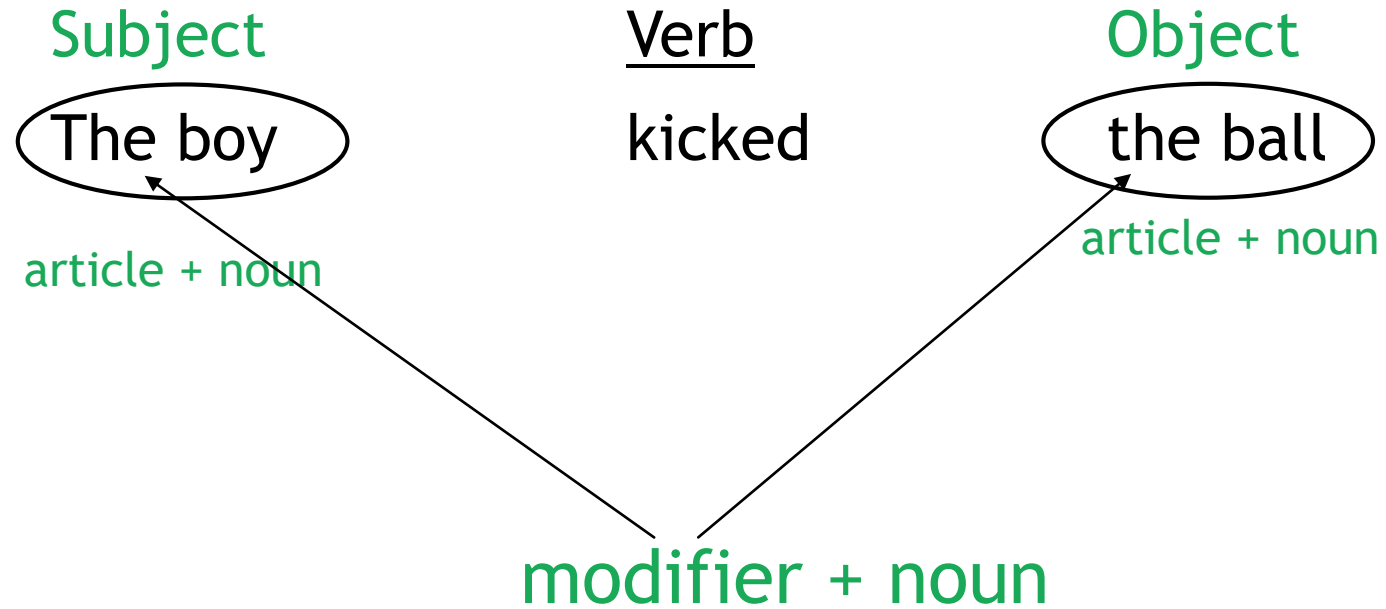
Sentence SVO

1. The boy **can** kick the ball.
2. The boy **may** kick the ball.
3. The boy **could** kick the ball.
4. The boy **might** kick the ball.
5. The boy **should** kick the ball.
6. The boy **would** kick the ball.
7. The boy **must** kick the ball.

possibility /
importance



Sentence SVO



modifier = modifies the noun
modifies = changes or 'adds to'

Sentence SVO

Subject
The boy

Verb

Object
the ball

should kick

helping + main verb

helping verb + main verb

helping verb = 'helps' the verb

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verb phrases

main verb =
**walk / walking /
walked**

Past

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helping verbs =
am / was
had / have
have been
will / will be
will have
will have been

Future

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helping verbs

helping verbs

- assist / support the main verb in a sentence
- providing additional information about the action or
 - indicate tense, mood, etc.

helping verbs

- The cat **had** **slept** peacefully.
 - (The helping verb "**had**" supports the main verb "slept.")
- She **is** **running** every morning.
 - (The helping verb "**is**" is supporting the main verb "running.")
- They **have** **been** **happy**.
 - (The helping verbs "**have**" and "**been**" support the main verb "happy.")

verb phrases

We have

1. Main verb
2. Helping (auxiliary) verbs
 - some helping verbs are called modal verbs

Helping verbs come before the main verb

Modal verbs come before any helping verbs and the main verb

[modal verb(s)] + [other helping verb(s)] + main verb(s)

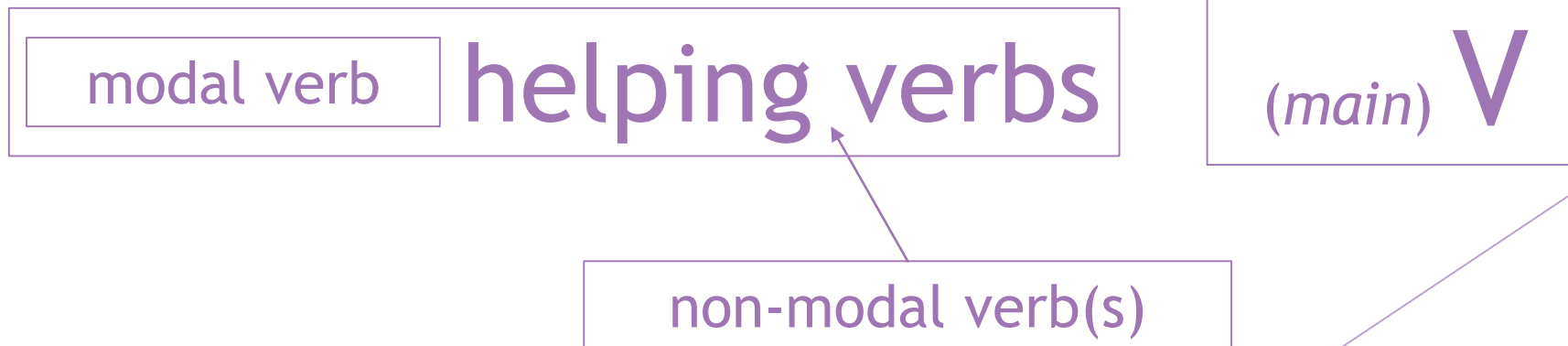
verb phrases

Brave could have walked to school - both helping verbs

“I thought you might could help me.” - multiple modal verbs - not correct English

so, we need to understand

1. modal verbs
2. non-modal verbs that are helping verbs



The background features abstract, overlapping purple geometric shapes in various shades, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, some semi-transparent, set against a white background.

helping verbs

that are not modal verbs

(non-modal) helping verbs

1. be
2. have
3. do

tenses

1. Present Continuous: He **is** studying for his exams.
2. Past Continuous: They **were** playing soccer when it started raining
3. Present Perfect: We **have** visited that museum before.
4. Past Perfect: She **had** already eaten when I arrived.
5. Simple Present (question): **Do** you like ice cream?
6. Simple Present (negative): She **doesn't** eat meat.

questions

1. **Are** you coming to the party?
2. **Is** she your friend?
3. **Have** you seen this movie?
4. **Has** he finished his homework?
5. **Do** they live in the city?
6. **Does** your sister play the piano?

negative

1. I **am not** ready yet.
2. She **is not** interested in politics.
3. I **have not** been to Paris.
4. She **has not** met my brother.
5. I **do not** understand the question.
6. They **do not** want any dessert.

verb phrase exercises

Exercise #1: Read the conversation and choose the helping verbs from the list below to complete each blank.

can can haven't may must have should should

- A: Hi, I heard you're planning a trip to Paris.

B: Yes, I'm excited! I _____ book the flights yet, but I'm thinking of going next month.
- A: I can't find my keys anywhere.

B: You _____ left them in the car. I remember you had them when we parked.
- A: I have an important job interview tomorrow.

B: You _____ wear something professional and be well-prepared. Confidence is key.
- A: I'm not sure if I _____ make it to the party on time.

B: Don't worry. If you're running late, you _____ always call and let them know.
- A: The weather forecast says it _____ rain later.

listening practice

Valerie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfTHe64HQBO>

Well sometimes I go out by myself
And I 1 _____ across the water
And I 2 _____ of all the things,
what you're doing
And in my head I paint a picture

'Cause since I've come on home
Well my body's 3 _____ a mess
And I've missed your ginger hair
And the way you like to dress
Won't you come on over
Stop 4 _____ a fool out of me
Why don't you come on over, Valerie?

Valerie*3

put
been
have
look
changed
find
catch
think
come
pay
making
missed

Did you 5 _____ to go to jail
6 _____ your house on up for sale, did you get
a good lawyer?
I hope you didn't 7 _____ a tan
I hope you 8 _____ the right man who'll fix it
for ya
Are you shopping anywhere
9 _____ the colour of your hair, are you busy?
And did you have to 10 _____ that fine
That you were dodging all the time, are you still
dizzy?

Since I've come on home
Well my body's been a mess
And I've 11 _____ your ginger hair
And the way you like to dress
Won't you 12 _____ on over?
Stop making a fool out of me
Why don't you come on over, Valerie?

Valerie*3
repeat

Valerie

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=vfTHe64HQBO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfTHe64HQBO)

Well sometimes I go out by myself
And I look across the water
And I think of all the things, what you're doing
And in my head I paint a picture

'Cause since I've come on home
Well my body's been a mess
And I've missed your ginger hair
And the way you like to dress
Won't you come on over
Stop making a fool out of me
Why don't you come on over, Valerie?

Valerie*3

Did you have to go to jail
Put your house on up for sale, did you get a good
lawyer?

I hope you didn't catch a tan
I hope you find the right man who'll fix it for ya
Are you shopping anywhere
Changed the colour of your hair, are you busy?
And did you have to pay that fine
That you were dodging all the time, are you still dizzy?

Since I've come on home
Well my body's been a mess
And I've missed your ginger hair
And the way you like to dress
Won't you come on over?
Stop making a fool out of me
Why don't you come on over, Valerie?

Valerie*3
repeat

modal verbs

same or different?

Helping verbs are auxiliary verbs

Modal verbs are a type of auxiliary verb

modal verbs

- can
- could
- may
- might
- shall
- should
- will
- would
- must

modal verbs

Modal verbs related to the main verb in a sentence to express a speaker's

- attitude
- necessity,
- possibility,
- probability,
- ability,
- permission,
- obligation, or
- requests.

modal verbs

Certainty

1. must
2. can't

You **must** be on time

You **can't** be late

modal verbs

Probability

1. must She **must** be at home by now
2. might She **might** be at home by now
3. may She **may** be at home by now
4. could She **could** be at home by now
5. can't She **can't** be at home by now

modal verbs

Deduction

1. must
2. might
3. can't

He's been studying all night; he **must** be tired

He's been studying all night; he **might** be tired

He's been resting all day; he **can't** be tired

modal verbs

Request

1. could
2. would
3. can

Could you please pass the salt?

Would you please pass the salt?

Can you please pass the salt?

modal verbs

Permission

1. may You **may** leave the table when you finish your dinner.
2. can You **can** go now.
3. can't You **can't** leave the table until you finish your dinner.
4. must You **must not** smoke in here
5. can't You **can't** smoke in here

modal verbs

Ability

1. can
2. could

She **can** speak three languages.

She **could** speak three languages by the time she left school

modal verbs

Necessity

1. must You **must** finish your homework before going out.
2. should You **should** finish your homework before going out.
3. have to You **have to** finish your homework before going out.
4. ought to You **ought to** finish your homework before going out.
5. need to You **need to** finish your homework before going out.

modal verbs

Can: Indicates ability, permission, or possibility.

- I can swim. (ability)
- Can I go to the party? (permission)

Could: Similar to "can" but often used for more polite requests or to express a possibility in the past.

- Could you help me, please?

Will: Expresses future actions, promises, or willingness.

- I will call you later.

Would: Often used to express politeness, make requests, or talk about hypothetical situations.

- Would you like some tea?

Shall: Used for suggestions, offers, or to indicate future events in formal English.

- Shall we go for a walk?

modal verbs

Should: Indicates advice, obligation, or expectation.

- You should study for the exam.

May: Indicates permission or possibility.

- May I use your phone? (permission)

Might: Similar to "may" but often implies a lower probability or is used to express a hypothetical situation.

- It might rain later.

Must: Expresses necessity or strong obligation.

- You must finish your homework.

Ought to: Similar to "should," expressing obligation or duty.

- You ought to apologize.

modal verb exercises

Exercise #1: Read the sentences and choose the correct modal verb from the list below to complete each blank.

Modal Verbs: can, could, will, would, should, may, might, must

On Saturday morning, Laura and Tom 1 _____ go for a hike in the mountains. Tom 2 _____ cook dinner tonight; he enjoys trying new recipes. Laura, you 3 _____ bring your camera; we might see some beautiful scenery. They 4 _____ start early if they want to reach the summit before sunset. Laura, you 5 _____ check the weather forecast before we leave.

Exercise #2: Degree of Certainty. Read the sentences and choose the correct modal verb from the list below to complete each blank.

Modal Verbs: can, could, will, would, should, may, might, must

1. It's 10:30, and Sarah isn't here yet. She _____ have forgotten about the meeting.
2. The test is challenging, but if you study hard, you _____ pass with flying colours.
3. I heard a noise outside. It _____ be the neighbours playing music loudly again.
4. Mark is a very able person; he _____ finish the report by himself
5. My parents _____ let me go to the concert if I finish my homework early.

Exercise #3: Complete each sentence with a modal verb a, b or c?

1. ___ you speak any foreign languages?
a. May b. Can c. Have
2. Liz ___ get tired of her job. It is so boring.
a. has to b. must c. should
3. Where's Nick? He ___ be in his office.
a. might b. mustn't c. is to
4. Take an umbrella. It ___ rain later.
a. has to b. need c. might
5. Jack ___ go to hospital yesterday.
a. must b. had to c. need

Exercise #3: Complete each sentence with a modal verb a, b or c?

6. You look tired. You ___ go to bed.

a. should b. ought c. are to

7. You ___ do it. I've already done it.

a. must not b. need not c. ought not

8. ___ it be true?

a. Must b. May c. Can

9. ___ we stay or leave?

a. Will b. Would c. Shall

10. Jane was so tired. She ___ have worked days and nights.

a. should b. must c. need

Exercise #4: Complete each sentence with a modal verb, here are my suggestions:

can't/ mustn't/won't can couldn't / didn't didn't
should should should shouldn't shouldn't shouldn't

1. It was very dark last night. I _____ see the man on the road.
2. He's not very strong. He _____ try to lift the box.
3. She's singing in the shower. I _____ hear her.
4. We must be home by ten o'clock. Perhaps we _____ go now.
5. Cigarettes are unhealthy. People _____ smoke them.
6. Your face is dirty. You _____ wash it.
7. That book doesn't belong to him. He _____ take it.
8. Emily's on a diet. She _____ eat that cake.
9. When I was young I _____ cook at all.
10. The speed limit is 50 km/hr in the city. You _____ slow down.



Thank you!
any questions?