

15.2 Linking Verbs (Action Verb or Linking Verb?)

• Practice 1

Action Verb or Linking Verb? To see whether a verb is a linking verb or an action verb, substitute *am*, *is* or, *are* for the verb. If the sentence still makes sense and if the new verb links a word before it to a word after it, then the original verb is a linking verb.

Linking	Action
The costume <i>looks</i> interesting. (The costume <i>is</i> interesting?) linking	My brother often <i>looks</i> for his little sister. (My brother often <i>is</i> for little sister?) not linking

Exercise 1 Distinguishing Between Action Verbs and Linking Verbs. Find and underline the verb in each sentence below. In the space provided, write *AV* for action verb or *LV* for linking verb.

EXAMPLE: At last the traveler grew tired. LV

- Our neighbor remained a close friend for years. _____
- My mother felt my head often during my illness. _____
- Your perfume smells too strong today. _____
- Grandmother tasted our fresh bread. _____
- After his defeat Father felt sad for a long time. _____
- The new snow shovel looks sturdy. _____
- Betsy appeared troubled at her interview. _____
- We grew two varieties of tomatoes last summer. _____
- Your new stereo speakers sound sensational. _____
- The bright day suddenly turned cloudy. _____

Exercise 2 Using Action and Linking Verbs in Original Sentences. Use each verb below first as an action verb and then as a linking verb.

EXAMPLE: smell (action) I smell gas in the kitchen.
(linking) Our new roses smell magnificent.

- look (action) _____
- (linking) _____
- grow (action) _____
- (linking) _____
- feel (action) _____
- (linking) _____
- taste (action) _____
- (linking) _____
- sound (action) _____
- (linking) _____