4.1 PRINCIPAL FORMS OF VERBS, VERB PHRASES

Verbs show action or being.

We explored the planetarium. (action)

Planetariums are interesting. (being)

The four basic forms of all verbs are the **present, past, past participle,** and **present participle.** The present form is also called the base form. The past and past participle of regular verbs are formed by adding *-d* or *-ed* to the base form. The present participle is formed by adding *-ing.*

PRESENT	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	PRESENT PARTICIPLE
look	looked	looked	looking

A **verb phrase** is two or more verbs that work together as a unit. A verb phrase may have one or more **auxiliary verbs** and a **main verb.** In the sentence below, the verb phrase is *have learned.* The main verb is *learned:* It is the past participle form. The auxiliary verb is *have.*

We have learned about planetariums in class.

Note that the past participle form is often used with auxiliaries, but the past form stands alone.

Some common auxiliary verbs are the forms of *be* (*am, is, are, was, were*), the forms of *have* (*have, has, had*), and the forms of *do* (*do, did*). Other common auxiliary verbs are *can, could, may, might, should,* and *will.*

The verbs in a verb phrase are usually written together. In negative sentences and in questions, the verbs may be separated, such as in the following sentences:

Our class did not see every exhibit.

Do you know anything about star constellations?

Have you memorized the poem about stars?



HIGHLIGHT OR UNDERLINE

the important information in the text.



THINK IT THROUGH

How will you remember what you just learned? Write or draw your ideas.

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EXERCISE 1 On each line, write the verb form for each underlined verb or verb phrase: present, past, past participle, or present participle.

1. Planetariums <u>educate</u> people about space. _____
2. We <u>have learned</u> a lot during our visits. _____
3. Last year we <u>went</u> twice. _____
4. We <u>are planning</u> to go again this year. _____
5. We <u>like</u> to go for special events. _____
6. I <u>discovered</u> fascinating facts about the moon the last time we went. _____

EXERCISE 2 Underline the verb phrase in each sentence.

1. Did you buy a ticket to the show?
2. I would like to get one.
3. You should consider coming along.
4. The planetarium is hosting many interesting events.
5. You can call them with any questions.
6. What do you know about the solar system?
7. I am learning more about it.
8. We have seen amazing shows in the planetarium's theater.
9. I will let you know when we visit it again.
10. You will never get bored there!

EXERCISE 3 On each line, write a verb phrase to complete each sentence.

1. We _____ to the planetarium today.
2. You _____ others to come along.
3. I _____ in line to get tickets.
4. You _____ amazed by what you see!



APPLY IT NOW

Write about a field trip you have taken to a museum or other destination. Circle the verbs and verb phrases in your writing.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

SCAN FOR MORE PRACTICE.

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