4.1 PRINCIPAL PARTS OF VERBS

HIGHLIGHT OR UNDERLINE
the important information in the text.

Verbs show action or state of being.

> **Miguel Indurain won the Tour de France five times.** (action)
>
> **Greg LeMond was the first U.S. cyclist to win that competition.** (state of being)

The principal parts of a verb are the **base form,** the **past,** and the **past participle.** A fourth part, the **present participle,** is formed by adding *-ing* to the base form. Participles have three functions in sentences. They can be part of a verb phrase, or they can act as an adjective, or as a noun.

Regular verbs form the past and past participle by adding *-d or -ed* to the base form.

BASE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	PRESENT PARTICIPLE
play	played	played	playing
wade	waded	waded	wading

Use a dictionary to find the principal parts of **irregular verbs.**

BASE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	PRESENT PARTICIPLE
do	did	done	doing
eat	ate	eaten	eating

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, *have* is the auxiliary verb; *watched* is the main verb, and it is in the past participle form. The past participle is often used with auxiliary verbs, while the past form stands alone.

> **Millions of people have watched the Tour de France.**

In the following sentence, *have* is the auxiliary verb and *begun* is the main verb. Because the sentence is in the form of a question, the auxiliary verb and the main verb are separated by the subject.

> **Have you begun your report on the Tour de France?**

Common auxiliary verbs are *be* and *have* and their various forms, as well as *do, did, can, may, might, should, could,* and *will*.

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

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EXERCISE 1 Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence.

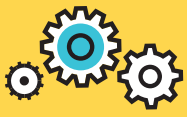
1. What do you know about the Iroquois Indians?
2. The Iroquois inhabited the northeastern United States.
3. Native Americans from this area are called Woodland Indians.
4. The Iroquois lived around the Great Lakes in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and lower Canada.
5. The League of the Iroquois was a confederation of six tribes.
6. The league included the Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora nations.

EXERCISE 2 Underline the main verb in each sentence. Double underline the auxiliary verb.

1. Iroquois longhouses have disappeared over time.
2. In some museums, you will find reconstructions of Iroquois villages.
3. Visitors may walk through the reconstructed longhouses.
4. The reconstructions are visited by the public.
5. You can get a feel for the daily life of the Iroquois.
6. The longhouses were divided into smaller areas.
7. One or two families would live off the main corridor.

EXERCISE 3 On the line, write the past or past participle form of the verb in parentheses to complete the sentence.

1. At one time, the Iroquois _____ (use) deerskins for clothing.
2. Cleared areas of the forest were _____ (farm) by the Iroquois.
3. They _____ (grow) varieties of squash, corn, and beans.
4. Longhouses were _____ (build) by the Iroquois.
5. These structures _____ (hold) many families.
6. Iroquois villages _____ (contain) a number of longhouses.
7. The Iroquois _____ (fortify) their villages with trenches.



APPLY IT NOW

Write about what you did this past weekend. Use the past and the past participle forms of verbs.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

SCAN FOR MORE PRACTICE.

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