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What Are Auxiliary Verbs?

- Auxiliary verbs are also called helping verbs.
- They are used with main verbs to form tenses, questions, negatives, and passive voice.
- They help the main verb express time, mood, or voice.

Types of Auxiliary Verbs

Type	Examples	Use in Sentence
Primary Auxiliary Verbs	am, is, are, was, were, have, has, had, do, does, did	Used to form tenses and questions – <i>She is studying, Do you play?</i>
Modal Auxiliary Verbs	can, could, may, might, will, would, shall, should, must, ought to	Show mood, ability, permission, necessity, or possibility – <i>You should work hard.</i>

Remember


- Every verb phrase has at least one auxiliary verb + one main verb.
 She is running fast.
- Auxiliary verbs change form according to tense or subject.
 He was eating. / They were eating.
- “Do” is used for questions and negatives.
 Do you like apples? / I don’t like coffee.
- Modals (like can, should, will) are also auxiliaries but they never change form.
 He can swim. / They can swim.
- Auxiliary verbs add detail to the main action – who, when, and how it happens.

Examples:

- She is reading a book.
- They have finished their homework.
- I will go to school tomorrow.

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 **Instruction:** Read the sentences, look at the pictures and choose the correct verb.



The boy _____ playing football in the park.

is

are

has



The children _____ studying for their exam together.

were

was

has



She _____ baking a chocolate cake for her mother.

is

are

have



The man _____ watering the plants in his garden.

was

were

have



They _____ waiting for the school bus at the stop.

were

was

is



I _____ reading a story before going to sleep.


am

is

are

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 **Instruction:** Underline the auxiliary verb and circle the main verb in each sentence.

1. The teacher is explaining a difficult topic to the students very patiently.
2. We have completed our science project before the deadline.
3. My parents are planning a short vacation during the holidays.
4. The cat was sleeping peacefully under the big tree.
5. The children were playing football when it started raining heavily.
6. The bird has built a small nest on the highest branch of the tree.
7. I am trying to learn how to bake a chocolate cake.
8. The students had already written their answers before the bell rang.
9. The gardener is watering the flowers every morning before sunrise.
10. We will visit our cousins in another city next month.
11. The baby was crying loudly because she was hungry.
12. They have been working together for more than five years.
13. The doctor is checking all the patients one by one.
14. I was reading a novel while it was raining outside.
15. She has been waiting for her friend since morning.
16. The bus was moving slowly through the crowded street.
17. The boy is looking for his lost notebook everywhere.
18. They were laughing at the funny story told by their teacher.
19. The old man has lived in this village all his life.
20. We are trying to finish the painting before the exhibition.

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 **Instruction:** Choose the correct auxiliary verb from the box and fill in the blanks.

**am is are was were have has had will shall can could may
might must been being does did do**

1. The children _____ playing quietly in their classroom before the teacher arrived.
2. My brother _____ reading a mystery book on the couch right now.
3. We _____ practicing for the school concert this evening.
4. The little puppy _____ running around the yard and barking happily.
5. I _____ never seen such a beautiful rainbow before.
6. She _____ working on her painting for two hours without a break.
7. The teacher _____ checking the notebooks carefully for spelling mistakes.
8. You _____ finish your lunch before going to play outside.
9. The movie _____ already started when we reached the theater.
10. They _____ studying for the test when the lights went out.
11. The students _____ helping each other with the science project.
12. I _____ planning to visit the art gallery tomorrow morning.
13. He _____ called me twice, but I missed his call both times.
14. We _____ walking home when it suddenly began to rain.
15. The birds _____ singing on the tree near our window.
16. My friends _____ waiting for me near the school gate.
17. The doctor _____ examining the patient when the nurse entered.
18. They _____ never traveled to another country before.
19. I _____ learning how to type faster using both hands.
20. She _____ bring her notebook to class every day.

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 **Instruction:** Tick (✓) the correct auxiliary verb for each sentence.

- The students _____ writing their essays in class.
(A) was (B) are (C) has (D) have
- The boy _____ trying to fix his broken toy.
(A) am (B) is (C) are (D) be
- We _____ waiting for the bus since morning.
(A) have (B) has (C) was (D) is
- My father _____ cooking dinner when the guests arrived.
(A) was (B) is (C) were (D) are
- They _____ finished their homework already.
(A) have (B) has (C) is (D) are
- I _____ reading the storybook right now.
(A) is (B) am (C) was (D) are
- She _____ visiting her grandparents next week.
(A) was (B) will (C) has (D) are
- The car _____ parked near the big shopping mall.
(A) is (B) are (C) have (D) was
- The children _____ gone to the zoo with their teacher.
(A) has (B) have (C) are (D) was
- We _____ never heard such wonderful music before.
(A) has (B) were (C) have (D) is
- He _____ playing the piano when the lights went out.
(A) is (B) are (C) was (D) have

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 **Instruction:** Add a correct auxiliary verb to complete each sentence meaningfully.

1. The students _____ discussing the answers for the quiz.
2. My brother _____ planning to buy a new bicycle next week.
3. We _____ traveling to the mountains this winter.
4. The teacher _____ giving homework after every lesson.
5. The dog _____ chasing the cat across the garden.
6. I _____ thinking about joining the art club at school.
7. They _____ waiting for their train at the platform.
8. She _____ painting a picture of her family right now.
9. The boys _____ laughing at the funny joke their friend told.
10. You _____ talking too loudly during class today.
11. The farmer _____ plowing the field early in the morning.
12. We _____ going to plant new trees in the park.
13. The doctor _____ checking the patient's temperature carefully.
14. He _____ learning how to play the guitar this month.
15. The girls _____ dancing at the school annual function.
16. My parents _____ watching a movie together after dinner.
17. The workers _____ repairing the old bridge over the river.
18. I _____ waiting for my exam results anxiously.
19. The baby _____ sleeping on her mother's lap peacefully.
20. The children _____ practicing for the play after school.

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 **Instruction:** Rewrite each sentence by changing its tense using the correct auxiliary verb.

• She is reading a storybook. → (Change to Past)
.....

• They are playing football in the park. → (Change to Future)
.....

• I am studying for the test. → (Change to Past)
.....

• The children are helping their teacher. → (Change to Past)
.....

• He is cooking dinner. → (Change to Future)
.....

• We are walking to school together. → (Change to Past)
.....

• She is singing a beautiful song. → (Change to Past)
.....

• The cat is sleeping on the sofa. → (Change to Future)
.....

• They are cleaning the classroom. → (Change to Past)
.....

• The baby is crying loudly. → (Change to Future)
.....

• He is writing a letter to his friend. → (Change to Past)
.....

• We are watching television. → (Change to Future)
.....

• The students are preparing for the final exam. → (Change to Past)
.....