

Name _____

Action Verbs and Linking Verbs

A **verb** expresses action or being.

An **action verb** is a word or group of words that expresses an action. An action verb is often the key word in the predicate. It tells what the subject does.

A **linking verb** connects the subject of a sentence with a word or words in the predicate. The most common linking verb is *be*. Some forms of *be* are *am*, *is*, *are*, *was*, and *were*. Here are other common linking verbs: *become*, *feel*, *seem*, *look*, *grow*, *taste*, *appear*, and *smell*.

Examples:

King Uther *ruled* England a long time ago. (action)

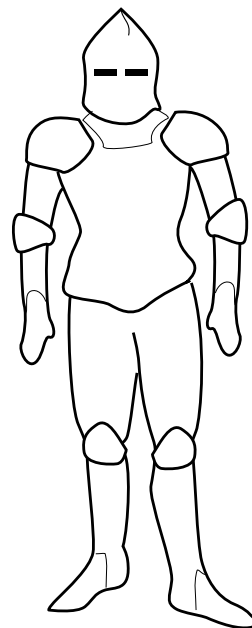
The name of his baby boy *was* Arthur. (linking)

In time, Sir Ector *became* Arthur's guardian. (linking)



DIRECTIONS Read each sentence. Underline each action verb.
Circle each linking verb.

1. Young Arthur felt very nervous.
2. Sir Kay left his sword at the inn.
3. He needed his sword for the tournament that day.
4. Arthur looked all over the village for a replacement.
5. Suddenly, Arthur saw a sword in a stone.
6. He ran over to the stone and studied the strange sword.
7. It appeared very secure in its stony sheath.
8. Arthur pulled it, and it moved.
9. The sword slid from the stone easily!
10. Arthur hurried back to the tournament with his prize.
11. Sir Ector bowed deeply to his foster son.
12. The sword was the sign of the next king of England.



Action Verbs and Linking Verbs

Answer Key

1. linking: felt
2. action: left
3. action: needed
4. action: looked
5. action: saw
6. action: ran; action: studied
7. linking: appeared
8. action: pulled; action: moved
9. action: slid
10. action: hurried
11. action: bowed
12. linking: was



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