



**The World of Languages**  
and Languages of the World

# Verbs

Today we will look at verb and how they are used in different languages.

Get your thinking caps on...

# Objectives

---

- We can see that, in many languages, verb endings change to match the person doing the action. This is called CONJUGATION.
- We can spot patterns: similarities and differences.
- We can see how these patterns can be linked to other languages.



# Let's Go!

run    jump    sing    laugh    eat    drink    chuckle  
learn    read    listen    speak    wash    cook    carry

What kind of words are these?

Can you explain what a  is?

What else do you know about this type of word?

# Let's start with a brain-teaser – in Latin!

mitt	o	I send
mitt	is	means you send
mitt	unt	means they send

So, what's...

We send = mitt \_ \_ \_ \_

He sends = mitt \_ \_

duco	I lead
ducit	means he leads
ducimus	means we lead

So, what's...

They lead = duc \_ \_ \_ \_

You lead = duc \_ \_



# Do you know the personal pronouns in English?

- \_\_\_\_
- you
- \_\_\_\_, she, it
- we
- you
- \_\_\_\_
- First person singular
- Second person singular
- Third person singular
- First person plural
- Second person plural
- Third person plural

**I love to learn about language.**

How would you write this sentence out in the third person?

What do you notice?



# Language detectives....are you ready?



How many similarities and differences can you spot?

**cantāre**

**chanter**

**to chant**

**to sing**

**singen**

**cantar**

**Latin**

**French**

**English**

**English (again)**

**German**

**Spanish**

canto

je chante

I chant

I sing

Ich singe

canto

cantas

tu chantes

you chant

you sing

du singst

cantas

cantat

il chante

he chants

he sings

er singt

canta

cantamus

nous chantons

we chant

we sing

wir singen

cantamos

cantatis

vous chantez

you chant

you sing

ihr singt

cantáis

cantant

ils chantent

they chant

they sing

sie singen

cantan



# Look a little closer...

1. Why are four of the verbs so similar and why is the verb 'sing' different?
2. Can you think of other languages that might be similar to the Latin or the German?
3. Why has English got "I chant" and "I sing"? Think about where the English language comes from?

# Let's travel to Scandinavia.

## Swedish “to eat”: Äta

I eat= jag äter

You eat= du äter

He, she, it eats= han, hon, den äter

We eat= vi äter

You eat= ni äter

They eat= de äter

## Danish “to speak”: tale

I speak = jeg taler

You speak = du taler

He, she, it speaks = han, hon, den taler

We speak = vi taler

You speak = i taler

They speak = de taler

## Norwegian “to throw”: kaste

I throw = jeg kaster

You throw = du kaster

He, she, it throws = han, hun, den kaster

We throw = vi kaster

You throw = dere kaster

They throw = de kaster



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)



ιπποπόταμος  
WoLlo the HIPPO



# Look a little closer...

---

- *Äta, tale and kaste* are infinitives: this is how we find the verb in the dictionary. In English we have “to eat”, “to speak” and “to throw”. What do these Scandinavian languages have do to the infinitive to get the conjugation of the verb?
- What is interesting about Scandinavian verb conjugation in the present tense and different from the languages we saw earlier?
- What similarities and differences do you notice between Swedish, Danish and Norwegian?
- Can you think of how we use the verb “to cast” in English?  
(One idea is in the photo, but there are a few.)



# Let's travel to India

In Hindi the verb *sonaa* means “to sleep”

	Masculine	Feminine
I sleep	main sotaa hoon	main sotee hoon
You sleep	tum sotaa hai	tum sotee hai
He/she sleeps	yah/vah sotaa hai	yah/vah sotee hai
We sleep	ham sote hain	ham sotee hain
You sleep	aap sote hain	aap sotee hain
They sleep	ve sote hain	ve sotee hain

1. What are the grammatical patterns for forming the present tense in Hindi?

2. Which words are the personal pronouns? Do they have any similarities to any language you know?



# A final challenge...

The infinitive is “to buy”.

Choose a language: Can you conjugate this verb in the present tense?

- English = to buy
- German = kaufen
- Spanish = comprar
- Swedish = att köpe
- Hindi = khareedana
- Perhaps you can conjugate the verb "to buy" in a language you know.



# WoLLoW would like to know...

Can you tell your partner 3 facts that you have learnt from today's lesson?



**ίπποπόταμος**  
WoLLoW the HiPPo