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ENGLISH

Finites, Non-finites, Participles

What are Finite Verbs and Non-finite Verbs?

Finite Verb

A finite verb is a form of a verb which has a subject and a tense.

Hazel **tripped** on a piece of wire.

Verb: tripped

Subject: Hazel

Tense: simple past tense

Chandu **will be** late on the first day of work.

Verb: will be

Subject: Chandu

Tense: simple future tense

Meena **has arrived** in Delhi.

Verb: has arrived

Subject: Meena

Tense: present perfect tense

Non-finite Verb

A non-finite verb is a form of verb which has no subject and no tense.

Reading is a hobby I enjoy the most.

The teacher made Samantha **read** the book.

Krish is repairing the **sewing** machine.

The serrated blade is used **to cut** bread.

Types of Non-finite Verbs

There are three types of non-finite verbs:

- Gerunds
- Participles
- Infinitives

Gerunds

Gerunds are verbs which end in '-ing' but function like **nouns** in a sentence.

They can play the role of a **subject** as well as an **object**.

Talking is discouraged in this camp.
 Marushka took up **singing**.
Nagging is something I cannot tolerate.
 I love **sleeping** till late in the evening.
 We forbid you from **cheating**.

Participles

Participles are verbs which function as **adjectives**.

Types of participles

- Past participles (end in '-en' or '-ed')
- Present participles (end in '-ing')

The **reading** glasses were kept on the **dining** table.
 The host served **frozen** desserts to the guests.
 Priya bought a brand new **sewing** machine.
 Harita and Vrinda sold **baked** goods at the carnival.

Infinitives

- A verb form where the word 'to' is followed by a simple form of a verb is known as an infinitive.
- Sometimes, 'to' is implied or absent in an infinitive.
- An infinitive is used to show the purpose or function of a particular action or thing.

Mayuri is going to the market **to buy** some vegetables.
 I need some tools **to fix** our creaky doors.
 The teachers made us **read** the book out aloud.
 Gertrude is going **to see** a movie this weekend.