

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Action Verb or Linking Verb?

Some verbs can be action or linking depending on how they are used in a sentence. Examples of these words include taste, smell, appear, look, feel, and sound.

How do you tell the difference? Easy! Replace the word with am, is, are, was, or were. If the sentence still makes sense, the word is being used as a linking verb. If the sentence doesn't make sense, the word is being used as an action verb.

### examples:

**Sentence:** Sam looked tired.

**Test:** Sam was tired.

**Conclusion:** Makes sense. Looked is a linking verb.



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2. \_\_\_\_\_ Maria felt the straps to make sure they were fastened correctly.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The guard sounded the alarm when the enemy approached.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ That sounds like an excellent idea.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The vegetable stew tasted too salty.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Alex tasted his dad's new chili recipe.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ The old chest smelled moldy when I opened it.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ The dog smelled my dirty clothes.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ I looked across the fields to watch the hunters come home.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ My sister looked pretty when she left for the dance.

## ANSWER KEY

### Action Verb or Linking Verb?

Some verbs can be action or linking depending on how they are used in a sentence. Examples of these words include taste, smell, appear, look, feel, and sound.

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8.   A   The dog smelled my dirty clothes.
9.   A   I looked across the fields to watch the hunters come home.
10.   L   My sister looked pretty when she left for the dance.