

Name: _____

Grammar: Complements

A **complement** completes something.

In a sentence, a **complement** is the word or words in the predicate that renames or describes the subject.

Complements follow linking verbs. Common linking verbs include the words *am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, seem, become, look, appear, taste, smell, sound, and feel*.

Complements can be nouns or adjectives.

examples:

Richard's new boat is a kayak.

is – linking verb

kayak – complement (a noun that renames the boat)



That bicycle looks too rusty to ride.

looks – linking verb

rusty – complement (an adjective that describes the bicycle)



Circle the linking verb in each sentence. Draw one line under the simple subject. Draw two lines under the complement.

1. Sunsets at the beach are remarkably beautiful.
2. Mr. Hernandez was our soccer coach.
3. That soup tastes too salty.
4. The new student seems shy.
5. The evening clouds were gray.
6. The waves are very choppy this morning.
7. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.
8. I am a smart student!
9. My favorite subject is history.
10. That old sneaker smells moldy.

ANSWER KEY

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That bicycle looks too rusty to ride.

looks – linking verb

rusty – complement (an adjective that describes the bicycle)



Circle the linking verb in each sentence. Draw one line under the simple subject. Draw two lines under the complement.

1. Sunsets at the beach **(are)** remarkably beautiful.
2. Mr. Hernandez **(was)** our soccer coach.
3. That soup **(tastes)** too salty.
4. The new student **(seems)** shy.
5. The evening clouds **(were)** gray.
6. The waves **(are)** very choppy this morning.
7. The grass **(is)** always greener on the other side of the fence.
8. I **(am)** a smart student!
9. My favorite subject **(is)** history.
10. That old sneaker **(smells)** moldy.