

SKILL 31: AFTER BE, USE THE PRESENT PARTICIPLE OR THE PAST PARTICIPLE

The verb *be* in any of its forms (*am, is, are, was, were, be, been, being*) can be followed by another verb. This verb should be in the present participle or the past participle form.

We <i>are do*</i> our homework.	(should be <i>are doing</i>)
The homework <i>was do*</i> early.	(should be <i>was done</i>)
Tom <i>is take*</i> the book.	(should be <i>is taking</i>)
The book <i>was take*</i> by Tom.	(should be <i>was taken</i>)

The following chart outlines the use of verb forms after *be*:

VERB FORMS AFTER BE		
BE	+	(1) present participle (2) past participle

EXERCISE 31: Each of the following sentences contains a verb formed with *be*. Underline the verbs twice. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

I 1. At 12:00 Sam is eat his lunch.

C 2. We are meeting them later today.

_____ 3. The message was took by the receptionist.

_____ 4. Being heard was extremely important to him.

_____ 5. The Smiths are build their house on some property that they own in the desert.

_____ 6. It had been noticed that some staff members were late.

_____ 7. The report should have been submit by noon.

_____ 8. Are the two companies merge into one?

_____ 9. He could be taking four courses this semester.

_____ 10. The score information has been duplicates on the back-up disk.

SKILL 32: AFTER WILL, WOULD, OR OTHER MODALS, USE THE BASE FORM OF THE VERB

Whenever you see a modal, such as *will, would, shall, should, can, could, may, might, or must*, you should be sure that the verb that follows it is in its base form.

The boat <i>will leaving*</i> at 3:00.	(should be <i>will leave</i>)
The doctor <i>may arrives*</i> soon.	(should be <i>may arrive</i>)
The students <i>must taken*</i> the exam.	(should be <i>must take</i>)