

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>)

The following chart outlines the use of verb forms after modals:

VERBS FORMS AFTER MODALS		
MODAL	+	base form of the verb

EXERCISE 32: Each of the following sentences contains a verb formed with a modal. Underline the verbs twice. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- C 1. The salesclerk might lower the price.
- I 2. The television movie will finishes in a few minutes.
- ___ 3. Should everyone arrive by 8:00?
- ___ 4. The method for organizing files can be improved.
- ___ 5. The machine may clicks off if it is overused.
- ___ 6. Every morning the plants must be watered.
- ___ 7. The houses with ocean views could sell for considerably more.
- ___ 8. Would anyone liked to see that movie?
- ___ 9. I do not know when it will depart.
- ___ 10. She will work on the project only if she can has a full-time secretary.

EXERCISE (Skills 30–32): Underline the verbs twice in the following sentences. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- ___ 1. I have gave you all the money that I have.
- ___ 2. The articles were put in the newspaper before he was able to stop production.
- ___ 3. All the tickets for the concert might already be sold.
- ___ 4. He was so thirsty that he drunk several large glasses of water.
- ___ 5. The deposit will has to be paid before the apartment can be rented.
- ___ 6. He objects to being held without bail.
- ___ 7. Having completed the first chapter of the manuscript, she decided to take a break.
- ___ 8. If Steve had really wanted to pass his exam, he would has studied much more.
- ___ 9. He thought that he should have be invited to attend the conference.
- ___ 10. Before the speaker finished, many guests had rose from their seats and started for the door.

TOEFL EXERCISE (Skills 30–32): Choose the letter of the underlined word or group of words that is not correct.

- _____ 1. *Alice in Wonderland*, first published in 1865, has since being translated into thirty languages.
A B C D
- _____ 2. The Peace Corps was establish on March 1, 1961, by then President John F. Kennedy.
A B C D
- _____ 3. The advisor told himself, while listening to the speech, that a dozen other reporters would has already asked that question.
A B C D
- _____ 4. At the start of the American Revolution, lanterns were hung in the Old North Church as a signal that the British were came.
A B C D
- _____ 5. Linus Pauling has wins two Nobel Prizes: the 1954 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and the 1962 Nobel Peace Prize.
A B C D
- _____ 6. On the huge Ferris wheel constructed for a world exhibition in Chicago in 1893, each of the thirty-six cabs could held sixty people.
A B C D
- _____ 7. To overcome rejection of a skin graft, a system for matching donor and recipient tissues has be developed.
A B C D
- _____ 8. Nails are commonly make of steel but also can contain substances such as aluminum or brass.
A B C D
- _____ 9. A patient suffering from amnesia may had partial or total loss of memory.
A B C D
- _____ 10. The idea of using pure nicotine to help smokers stop was first tries in the mid-1980's with nicotine-laced chewing gum.
A B C D

TOEFL REVIEW EXERCISE (Skills 1–32): Choose the letter of the word or group of words that best completes the sentence.

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|---|--|
| <p>1. _____ separates Manhattan's Upper East Side from the Upper West Side.</p> <p>(A) Central Park
(B) Where Central Park
(C) Where is Central Park
(D) Central Park which</p> | <p>2. Bioluminescent animals _____ the water or on land.</p> <p>(A) live
(B) are living either
(C) they are found in
(D) can be found in</p> |
|---|--|

3. The purpose of a labor union is to improve the working conditions, _____, and pay of its members.
- (A) jobs are secure
(B) to be secure
(C) job security
(D) the job's security
4. When _____ on July 4, 1789, the federal tariff, intended by the Founding Fathers to be the government's primary source of revenue, was remarkably evenhanded.
- (A) was first enacted
(B) first enacted
(C) was enacted first
(D) it first
5. _____ inclined to push for such a reduction, it would probably not be successful.
- (A) The Office of Management
(B) The Office of Management was
(C) In the Office of Management
(D) Were the Office of Management

Choose the letter of the underlined word or group of words that is not correct.

- _____ 6. Helium has the most low boiling point of all substances.
- A B C D
- _____ 7. There is twenty-six bones in the human foot, fourteen of them in the toes.
- A B C D
- _____ 8. Extension of the countdown hold to fourteen hours was order to give crews more time to repair wiring and clear away equipment.
- A B C D
- _____ 9. The study demonstrates that neither experience or awareness will improve chances of success.
- A B C D
- _____ 10. Some of the eye movements used in reading is actually unnecessary.
- A B C D

PROBLEMS WITH THE USE OF THE VERB _____

Many different problems in using the correct verb tense are possible in English. However, four specific problems occur frequently on the TOEFL test, so you need to pay careful attention to these four: (1) knowing when to use the past with the present, (2) using *had* and *have* correctly, (3) using the correct tense with time expressions, and (4) using the correct tense with *will* and *would*.