

## Verb Patterns

**Aim:** To help students understand and use the five common verb patterns.

**Time:** 60 minutes & homework task.

**Delivery:** This lesson can be delivered face-to-face or online. For online delivery, each worksheet could be placed in a class document on OneDrive.

### Lead in

- Distribute or project **worksheet 1**. Students complete **task 1 & task 2**: paragraph analysis.
- Feedback: nominate one or two students to answer, but don't give the answers yet.

### Language Review

- Distribute or project the language review. Students read and discuss rules.
- Feedback: nominate one or two students to give their answers.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

### Guided Practice

- Distribute or project **worksheet 2**.
- Option 1: students complete **tasks 1 & 2** individually, in pairs or small groups.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 2 tasks 1 & 2 ANSWERS**.
- Option 2: students complete each task individually, in pairs or small groups.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS** before students move onto the next task.
- Distribute or project **worksheet 3**. Students complete **task 1**: multiple choice.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 3 task 1 ANSWERS**.
- Students complete **task 2**: identify the errors.
- Feedback: distribute or project **worksheet 3 task 2 ANSWERS**.

### Freer Practice

- Students write a paragraph on the popularity of streaming devices to practise the language learnt.
- Students do peer feedback. Use the included **checklist**.

### Homework

- Students choose a topic connected to their studies and write a paragraph paying careful attention to the language learnt in the session.
- Teachers take in and mark. Use our error correction code.

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## Worksheet 1: Introduction to verb patterns

### Task 1

1. Read the following paragraph on labelling in the cosmetics industry.
2. Do you understand all the words?
3. How many different verb patterns can you identify?
4. Compare with your partner.

### Labelling in the cosmetics industry

Many of us today would agree that cosmetic brands should let consumers know exactly what ingredients are used in their products. These days, several brands are tapping into the vegan trend by announcing that their product does not contain any animal ingredients, such as beeswax. However, some cosmetic brands fail to confirm that the product has not been tested on animals at any point during the process. It is, therefore, quite plausible that a product advertised as vegan may not be labelled cruelty-free. This is because in China, in contrast to Europe, any skincare, haircare or make-up item must be tested on animals before the brand decides to sell it to the public. Moreover, cosmetic products made in China do not necessarily involve testing on animals, so these could be branded cruelty-free if the company reveals that it is not sold in China, as well as vegan, if no part of the item is derived from an animal.

### Task 2: Which of these verb patterns can you see in the paragraph in task 1?

Refer to the [Language Review](#) on next page.

Verb Pattern	Yes/No/Not Sure	Example
Verb + infinitive		
Verb + to + infinitive		
Verb + gerund		
Verb + that clause		
Verb + wh- clause		

## Language Review: Verb Patterns

### Verb patterns

A verb pattern is when one verb follows another in a single clause. The former verb dictates how the latter verb will be used. There are five main verb patterns in English. These will either involve an infinitive (with or without *to*), the gerund (*-ing* form) and clauses with *that* or *wh-* (*what, when, how* etc.).

### Task 3

1. Look at the types of verb patterns.
2. Are any of these new to you?
3. Discuss with your partner.

Verb Pattern	Common Verbs	Example Sentences
Verb + infinitive	<b>can, could, let, make, may, might, must, should, would</b>	<i>Many parents do not <b>let</b> their children <b>have</b> a mobile phone before they turn twelve.</i> <i>The pandemic has <b>made</b> many people <b>become</b> anxious about travelling.</i>
Verb + to + infinitive	<b>afford, allow, begin, decide, fail, intend, manage, offer, refuse</b>	<i>Many families cannot <b>afford to pay</b> the anticipated rise in energy bills.</i> <i>The government has <b>refused to comment</b> on the allegations.</i>
Verb + gerund	<b>admit, anticipate, avoid, consider, deny, involve, recommend, report, risk</b>	<i>Meteorologists <b>anticipate rising</b> temperatures in Europe next week.</i> <i>Almost half of the respondents would <b>consider working</b> at home permanently.</i>
Verb + that clause	<b>acknowledge, agree, announce, confirm, inform, predict, reveal, state, stress</b>	<i>The new CEO <b>announced that</b> there would be a complete restructure of the company.</i> <i>The experts <b>stress that</b> washing your hands regularly will stop the spread of the virus.</i>
Verb + wh- clause	<b>ask, explain, instruct, know, remind, show, signal, teach, tell</b>	<i>This article will <b>explain how</b> to wear a face mask correctly.</i> <i>The guide did not exactly <b>show where</b> the remains were found.</i>
Verb + gerund or infinitive (no change in meaning)	<b>continue, hate, love, like, prefer, propose</b>	<i>If we <b>continue to destroy</b> the Amazon rainforest, several of its inhabitants will become extinct.</i> <i>If we <b>continue destroying</b> the Amazon rainforest, several of its inhabitants will become extinct.</i>
Verb + gerund or infinitive (change in meaning)	<b>forget, need, regret, remember, stop, try</b>	<i>The police <b>tried using</b> tear gas to break up the protest = The police experimented with tear gas as a possible solution</i> <i>The police <b>tried to use</b> tear gas to break up the protest = They attempted to use tear gas but it failed.</i>

## Worksheet 2: Guided Practice

### Task 1

- Practice *verb + gerund and verb + infinitive (with or without to)* by completing the gap with the word in brackets.
  1. People volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ for the National Trust because they are passionate about conservation. (*work*)
  2. Investors in Fox could risk \_\_\_\_\_ huge amounts of money in the weeks to come. (*lose*)
  3. It is advisable to avoid \_\_\_\_\_ too many bullet points on presentation slides. (*use*)
  4. The UK government does not currently allow passengers \_\_\_\_\_ from several South American countries. (*enter*)
  5. Despite the national lockdown, some citizens have been unable to resist \_\_\_\_\_ large gatherings. (*attend*)
  6. The Prime Minister delayed \_\_\_\_\_ new quarantine measures until next week. (*introduce*)
  7. The teachers' union NASUWT has threatened \_\_\_\_\_ headteachers over the re-opening of schools. (*sue*)
  8. Most doctors and healthcare professionals recommend \_\_\_\_\_ two to three hours of exercise a week. (*do*)
  9. This essay aims \_\_\_\_\_ the effects of the global pandemic on children's mental health. (*examine*)
  10. Several eye witnesses reported \_\_\_\_\_ loud gunshots. (*hear*)

### Task 2

- Practice *verb + that clause and verb + wh clause* by circling the correct option.
  1. Archaeologists have recently discovered when/that the artifacts were made.
  2. The purpose of an Ofsted inspection is to observe exactly how/that a school is run.
  3. A report has predicted that/what temperatures will rise by up to twenty degrees in the next thirty years.
  4. A recent survey has revealed how long/that young people are spending online.
  5. One of the aims of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry was to establish what/that caused the fire that killed seventy-two people.
  6. The White House confirmed that/when President-elect Joe Biden would take office in early 2021.
  7. The insurance company informed its staff via text message that/who it had ceased trading.
  8. One huge misconception is that microchips signal where/that an animal is located.
  9. Recent research has suggested which/that pangolins are now the most trafficked animal in the world.
  10. Workers in factories in Bangladesh have complained where/that conditions remain unsafe despite new legislation.

## Worksheet 3: Guided Practice

### Task 1

- Read the following paragraph about hygiene poverty and circle the correct option.
- Compare with your partner.

#### Hygiene poverty

It could be said that most people would associate poverty with a lack of food, but a worryingly new statistic has revealed **which/that/what** more than a third of families cannot afford **buy/buying/to buy** basic personal grooming products such as soap, shampoo and toothpaste in the UK. This means that while children are being sent to school unclean and risk **be/being/to be** bullied because of it, parents have to consider **have/having/to have** a meal or a wash, as they cannot afford both. As the aforementioned statistic is predicted **rise/rising/to rise** as a result of the global pandemic, non-profit organisations such as *Beauty Banks* and *The Hygiene Bank* continue to stress **that/where/who** a lack of cleanliness affects not only a person's physical health but also their mental well-being. Their donation points in high-street chemists such as *Superdrug* and *Boots* aim to encourage customers **purchase/purchasing/to purchase** an extra bottle of shower gel or can of deodorant while shopping to remind us all **when/who/why** being clean is a basic human right that should not be taken for granted.

### Task 2

- Read the following paragraph about the Arcadia Group takeovers. Identify and correct any mistakes.
- Compare with your partner.

#### The Arcadia Group takeovers

At the end of 2020, it was announced when one of the UK's biggest high-street chains, the Arcadia Group, had gone into administration. Arcadia consisted of eight fast fashion brands, all of which have now been bought by three other companies. Those three companies, *Asos*, *Boohoo* and *City Chic*, all refused keep the physical stores open, which meant that several thousands of jobs have been lost. All three have confirmed where the brands will operate online only. Two of the companies in question, *Asos* and *Boohoo* are successful online retailers which reported to receive between one and three billion in revenue last year. Thus, many people have questioned why they would acquire another seven brands between them when it was revealed why lucrative their already vast collection of brands was. It seems that, particularly in the case of *Boohoo*, although they have acknowledged how some of the Arcadia brands are not 'fashion-forward', they do bring with them a loyal clientele, and perhaps a clientele that would not have considered buy from *Boohoo* before. Furthermore, three of the brands acquired are still extremely popular, with two million accounts and purchases of almost two hundred million pounds in 2020. This may explain that even well-established and profitable brands such as *Asos* and *Boohoo* could not resist the opportunity to increase their brand awareness even further.

## Worksheet 4: Freer Practice

### Task 1

- Write a paragraph on the popularity of streaming services (such as Amazon Prime and Netflix) paying particular attention to your verb patterns.

Write your paragraph here...

### Peer feedback

- Improve your own writing skills by analysing your partner's paragraph:

Has your partner...	Yes / No / Not Sure
correctly identified which verbs require 'to' in clauses using the infinitive?	
accurately incorporated examples of gerund - clauses?	
demonstrated clear understanding of when to use 'that' or 'wh-' in clauses of that type?	
shown knowledge of the difference in meaning between gerund and infinitive clauses using the same verb?	

### Homework

- Find an article related to your area of study. Read through and highlight the verb patterns sentences. Which ones have been used? Why has the writer used these particular ones?
- Select a topic from your subject and write a short paragraph paying particular attention to your verb patterns.

## Verb patterns **ANSWERS**

### Worksheet 1: Task 1

#### Labelling in the cosmetics industry

Many of us today **would agree** that cosmetic brands **should let** consumers **know** exactly what ingredients are used in their products. These days, several brands are tapping into the vegan trend by **announcing** that their product does not contain any animal ingredients, such as beeswax. However, some cosmetic brands **fail to confirm** that the product has not been tested on animals at any point during the process. It is, therefore, quite plausible that a product advertised as vegan **may** not be labelled cruelty-free. This is because in China, in contrast to Europe, any skincare, haircare or make-up item **must** be tested on animals before a brand **decides to** sell it to the public. Moreover, products made in China do not necessarily **involve** testing on animals, so these **could** be branded cruelty-free if the company **reveals** that it is not sold in China, as well as vegan, if no part of the item is derived from an animal.

#### Language Guide: From Task 1

Verb Pattern	Yes/No/Not Sure	Example
Verb + infinitive	<b>would</b> <b>should</b> <b>let</b> <b>may</b> <b>could</b> <b>must</b>	<i>would agree</i> <i>should let</i> <i>let consumers know</i> <i>may not be labelled</i> <i>could be branded</i> <i>must be tested</i>
Verb + to + infinitive	<b>fail</b> <b>decide</b>	<i>fail to confirm</i> <i>decides to sell</i>
Verb + gerund	<b>involve</b>	<i>do not involve testing</i>
Verb + that clause	<b>agree</b> <b>announce</b> <b>confirm</b> <b>reveal</b>	<i>agree that cosmetic brands...</i> <i>announcing that their product...</i> <i>confirm that the product...</i> <i>reveals that it is not...</i>
Verb + wh- clause	<b>know</b>	<i>know exactly what...</i>

### Worksheet 2: Task 1

1. People volunteer **to work** for the National Trust because they are passionate about conservation.
2. Investors in Fox could risk **losing** huge amounts of money in the weeks to come.
3. It is advisable to avoid **using** too many bullet points on presentation slides.
4. The UK government does not currently allow passengers **to enter** from several South American countries.
5. Despite the national lockdown, some citizens have been unable to resist **attending** large gatherings.
6. The Prime Minister delayed **introducing** new quarantine measures until next week.
7. The teachers' union NASUWT has threatened **to sue** headteachers over the re-opening of schools.
8. Most doctors and healthcare professionals recommend **doing** two to three hours of exercise a week.
9. This essay aims **to examine** the effects of the global pandemic on children's mental health.
10. Several eye witnesses reported **hearing** loud gunshots.

**Task 2**

1. Archaeologists have recently discovered **when** the artifacts were made.
2. The purpose of an Ofsted inspection is to observe exactly **how** a school is run.
3. A report has predicted **that** temperatures will rise by up to twenty degrees in the next thirty years.
4. A recent survey has revealed **how long** young people are spending online.
5. One of the aims of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry was to establish **what** caused the fire that killed seventy-two people.
6. The White House confirmed **that** President-elect Joe Biden would take office in early 2021.
7. The insurance company informed its staff via text message **that** it had ceased trading.
8. One huge misconception is that microchips signal **where** an animal is located.
9. Recent research has suggested **that** pangolins are now the most trafficked animal in the world.
10. Workers in factories in Bangladesh have complained **that** conditions remain unsafe despite new legislation.

**Worksheet 3: Task 1****Hygiene poverty**

It could be said that most people would associate poverty with a lack of food, but a worryingly new statistic has revealed **that** more than a third of families cannot afford **to buy** basic personal grooming products such as soap, shampoo and toothpaste in the UK. This means that while children are being sent to school unclean and risk **being** bullied because of it, parents have to consider **having** a meal or a wash, as they cannot afford both. As the aforementioned statistic is predicted **to rise** as a result of the global pandemic, non-profit organisations such as *Beauty Banks* and *The Hygiene Bank* continue to stress **that** a lack of cleanliness affects not only a person's physical health but also their mental well-being. Their donation points in high-street chemists such as *Superdrug* and *Boots* aim to encourage customers **to purchase** an extra bottle of shower gel or can of deodorant while shopping to remind us all **why** being clean is a basic human right that should not be taken for granted.

**Task 2:****The Arcadia Group takeovers**

At the end of 2020, it was announced **that** one of the UK's biggest high-street chains, the Arcadia Group, had gone into administration. Arcadia consisted of eight fast fashion brands, all of which have now been bought by three other companies. Those three companies, *Asos*, *Boohoo* and *City Chic*, all refused **to keep** the physical stores open, which meant that several thousands of jobs have been lost. All three have confirmed **that** the brands will operate online only. Two of the companies in question, *Asos* and *Boohoo* are successful online retailers which reported **receiving** between one and three billion in revenue last year. Thus, many people have questioned why they would acquire another seven brands between them when it was revealed **how** lucrative their already vast collection of brands was. It seems that, particularly in the case of *Boohoo*, although they have acknowledged **that** some of the Arcadia brands are not 'fashion-forward', they do bring with them a loyal clientele, and perhaps a clientele that would have not have considered **buying** from *Boohoo* before. Furthermore, three of the brands acquired are still extremely popular, with two million accounts and purchases of almost two hundred million pounds in 2020. This may explain **why** even well-established and profitable brands such as *Asos* and *Boohoo* could not resist the opportunity to increase their brand awareness even further.