I am here in the studio so that I can record this week’s introduction to verbs.

You are watching this video so that you can use verbs well in your writing.

VERB CLASSES
• Finite – (read)
• Non-finite – (to read)

FINITE VERBS
• Can be joined by linking verbs and helping verbs.
• Can be either transitive or intransitive.
• Can indicate tense, mood, or voice.

LINKING VERBS
• Link a subject with a complement that describes or explains it.
• Include sensory verbs and verbs such as be, appear, seem, remain, and stay.

Agatha seems intrigued.

We remain committed to our cause.

You appear to have arrived.

HELPING VERBS
• Also known as auxiliary verbs
• Help to form certain tenses when combined with a main verb:
• To be
• To do
• To have

8 □ HELPING VERBS

I am getting used to the dragon.

I do like the dragon.

I have fed the dragon.

9 □ MODAL VERBS

• Combine with the base form of a main verb.
• Suggest a condition such as a need, likelihood, requirement, or permission.
• Such verbs include can, could, may, might, must, ought, should, will, and would.

10 □ MODAL VERBS

You should read this book next.

Other examples:

They must leave.
Can I come in?

11 □ TRANSITIVE VERBS

• Express an action carried out on one or more objects.

I made a cake for the party.

I wrote the Queen a letter.
12 INTRANSITIVE VERBS

- Do not require an object to complete their meaning.
- They are complete in themselves.

*Ice melts in the sun.*

*My dog lay down on the floor.*

13 VERB PHRASE

- Is a compound verb.
- Is a main verb plus helping verbs.

*I can read.*

*The film has started.*

*I have been there.*

14 VERB PHRASE

15 PHRASAL VERB

- A two- or three-word verb
- Consists of a main verb and preposition that is integral to the meaning of the verb.

Do not use a hyphen in a phrasal verb.

16 PHRASAL VERB

*Let’s turn on the light.*

*I’ll climb up that tree.*
Other examples include add up, back up, back down, back off, call in, call up, call off, call on, come up, come up to, and come up against.

NON-FINITE VERBS

- Also known as verbals
- Comprise infinitives, participles, and gerunds

PARTICIPLE

- Can be present or past tense.
- Added to a helping verb to make a verb.

PRESENT PARTICIPLE

- Always ends in ‘-ing’.

I am riding north tonight.

We are going to the movies tomorrow.

PAST PARTICIPLE

- Often ends in -d or -ed.
- Can have an irregular ending

I have cooked dinner tonight.

I have broken my curfew.

Bored students need extra work to do.

GERUND
I have broken my curfew.

Bored students need extra work to do.

Swimming can be therapeutic.

Boris loves dancing.

I want to breed show ponies.

To boldly go.

To gradually disperse

When examined carefully, the substance did not seem to be harmful.