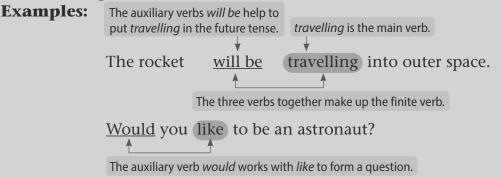
Grammar

Finite and auxiliary verbs

Verbs are often called *doing* words because they show what is being done. **Example:** They <u>sent</u> a rocket into space. Verbs are also called *being* words because they show that something exists. **Example:** My dog <u>is</u> happy that I <u>am</u> home.

- A **finite verb** must be linked to a subject and must show number (singular or plural) and tense (past, present or future). **Example:** <u>The astronauts were ready</u> for blast off!
- Finite verbs are not always single words. **Auxiliary verbs** are helping verbs. **Examples:** *am, is, are, was, were, can, could, will be.* Auxiliary verbs can be used with a main verb to form a finite verb. The auxiliary verb usually helps to show the tense or to form a question.



- 1. Underline all the finite verbs in the sentences below. Remember that a finite verb can be more than one word.
 - a) Mark Shuttleworth went to space.
 - b) I visited NASA, the space station in Texas.
 - c) Food floats in space because there is no gravity.
 - d) Who will be the first person to live on the moon?
- 2. Use an auxiliary verb from the box to complete the sentences. Bracket the main verb that the auxiliary verb is helping.

has will would have do

- a) Tomorrow we ______ go to the science library.
- b) Research into space travel ______ taken many years.
- c) How ______ people sleep in a spacecraft?
- d) I wonder what our great-grandparents _____

_____ thought about space travel!



Single verbs that end in -**ing** are never finite. They need an auxiliary verb to help them form the tense. **Example:** He <u>is hoping</u> to study astronomy one day.



Verbs that have to in front of them are not finite verbs. **Example:** I am going <u>to</u> <u>complete</u> my project tomorrow.



Grammar

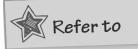
Transitive and intransitive verbs

- The prefix *trans* means *going across*, so a **transitive verb** carries the action across from the subject to the object.
- Transitive verbs are used *with* an object.
- Intransitive verbs are used without an object.

Examples:

In this sentence, *sings* is a transitive verb because it has a direct object, *song*. Emily <u>sings</u> a song.

In this sentence, *loudly* is an adverb, not an object, so *sings* is an intransitive verb. Emily sings loudly.



Refer to page 14 to revise direct objects.



applauded: made a noise by clapping hands

- 1. Is the underlined verb transitive (T) or intransitive (I)? Write T or I in the boxes.
 - a) Lisa <u>plays</u> the drums.
 - b) The audience <u>applauded</u> loudly.
 - c) Tsepo <u>held</u> the violin bow in his hand.
 - d) Bheki <u>shook</u> like a leaf when he stood up to sing.
 - e) The learners <u>grew</u> more enthusiastic when they started singing popular songs.
- 2. Use each verb in a sentence. Put a cross in the box to say if the verb is transitive (T) or intransitive (I).
 - a) slept:
 T
 T

 Image: Image

