

Essential verbs (part 2)

make

The schoolchildren **make** a chemical experiment with the help of their teacher.
A woman **makes** a smoothie for breakfast

You can use this verb to talk about things you create or produce.

use

A woman **uses** a smartphone to listen to music.
A woman **uses** a vacuum cleaner.

If you **use** a particular tool, you do something with that tool for a particular purpose.

open

When you wake up you **open** your eyes.
When it's stuffy in the room you **open** the window.

If something **opens** it changes to the position that it is not closed.

close

After you have read the book you **close** it.
The train doors **close** and it departs.

To **close** is to shut something or to end something.

change

In autumn the leaves on trees **change** their color from green to yellow and red.
They are **changing** the white wall color to blue.

As a verb, it means to become different in some particular way from what it once was.

lose

The corporate worker was fired. He **lost** his job. This man has **lost** something. He is desperately looking for this thing right now.

The verb **to lose** means that you have missed something. Maybe it's your car keys or the love of your life.

find

This man looked for the keys and then he saw them under a chair in his room. He **found** them.

This employee is so happy. He has **found** some good news about his business.

To find something means to discover it.

stand

Windmills **stand** in the middle of green fields.

This woman **stands** on the cliff.

To stand is to be upright or vertical, with your feet on the floor.

spoil

Rain and wind can **spoil** summer weather at the vacation center.

Too much money can **spoil** the child.

When you spoil something, you destroy it or ruin its quality. If you spoil a surprise, you tell the secret you were supposed to keep.

catch

If your friend throws you a ball you **catch** it.
The spider **catches** insects in a web.

To catch means to grasp something quickly and keep it in your hands.

break

The cook **breaks** the egg into a cup.
This car **broke** down. The woman should probably call the service center

To break means to ruin something.

fall

In autumn the leaves **fall** from the trees onto the ground.
Various kinds of repair tools **fell** on the ground.

The verb to **fall** means to suddenly go down onto the ground.

rise

The sun **rises** in the morning.
Smoke **rises** up the chimney.

As a verb, rise can mean anything from "get up" to "increase", to move upwards.

celebrate

They are **celebrating** New Year's Eve together.
Every year you **celebrate** your Birthday.

To celebrate means to mark a special day, event, or holiday and to show that it is important.

invite

You tell your friend that it'll be nice if he comes to your party. You **invite** your friend. The salesman **invites** the potential buyer to get in the car because he wants to sell that car.

The verb to invite means to ask someone in a friendly way to do something or encourage them to go with you.

visit

When you have some problems with your health you **visit** a doctor.
I have never been to India (Taj Mahal). I hope to **visit** it someday.

The verb to visit means to go to a place in order to look at it, or a person in order to spend time with them.

grow

Vegetables **grow** in a greenhouse.
The tree was small. Now it is bigger. The tree has **grown**.

To grow means to increase in size by natural process or to become more developed.

care

This woman is taking **care** of her grandmother.
When you brush your teeth regularly you take **care** of them

As a verb care means to protect someone or something and give everything that this person needs.

depend

Little children **depend** on their parents.
In most cases, life **depends** on money.

To depend is to have confidence in something or someone.

choose

The woman is **choosing** products in the supermarket.
This woman **chooses** sneakers instead of high heels.

Any time you decide on one thing over another - whether it's a seat on a plane, a new pair of shoes, or who you want to marry - you choose it.

keep

People **keep** money in the bank.
You **keep** food in the refrigerator.

To keep means to have and hold on to something.

wait

At the bus stop, you **wait** for a bus.
I think this boy is **waiting** for a vacation.

The verb wait means that time goes by while you are standing in one place without doing very much until someone comes or something happens.

laugh

When you watch a comedy or hear something funny you **laugh**.
A couple is talking and **laughing**.

To smile if something is funny. The job of a comedian is to make people laugh.

swim

In summer, when the water is warm, people **swim** in rivers, lakes, and swimming pools.

What is one of the best ways to cool off on a hot summer day? Yes to swim in a cold lake or pool. When you swim you move through the water using your arms and legs.

lie in the sun

In summer when it is sunny and warm people **lie in the sun**.

If you want to make your skin darker you lie in the sun and sunbathe.

wash

You **wash** your hands with soap.
You **wash** your clothes in a washing machine.

The verb wash means to make something clean using water, or water and soap.

put on

This man **puts on** a suit in a store.
A man **puts on** a watch.

This means putting clothing on one's body

take off

You **take off** your clothes in the evening when you go to bed.
This man **takes off** his glasses.

This means removing clothes from one's body.

finish

This artist has **finished** his painting.
Someone has **finished** work on the laptop and is ready to go home.

To finish something is to complete it or bring it to a conclusion. If you finished a race, you completed it - even if you didn't come in first.

be late

If you wake up at 9 am and your work begins at 8 am you **are late** for work.
Children **are late** for classes.

When you are late you are not on time.