

ACTANT VERBS IN ENGLISH

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The article deals with characteristics of actant verbs in English. One of the characteristics of actant verbs in modern English is the text-creating feature. Actant verbs connect the subject with the message or part of the message. They state the attitudes between subject and predicate on the one hand, between verb and actants on the other hand. Both ordinary and actant verbs have action, but some of them have action and state while others have thinking, situation, etc. manifests itself more prominently. The kinds of actants have been touched upon in the article as well.

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One of the features of actant verbs in modern English is their textuality. Actant verbs connect the subject with the message or part of the message. Both ordinary and actant verbs have action, but in some of them action and movement are more prominent, while in others thought, state, etc. are more prominent [1, p. 58]. These verbs are mainly divided into three groups:

1. Verbs denoting state – *to be, to prove, to remain, to stay, to keep, to stand*, etc.

2. Verbs denoting thought – *to seem, to appear, to feel, to look, to sound, to smell, to taste*, etc.

3. Verbs that change state – *to become, to get, to go, to turn, to grow, to come, to fall, to run*, etc.

Let's start with verbs that express the existence or state of objects and people, as well as help describe their characteristic features. Such verbs include: *to be, to prove, to remain, to stay, to keep, to stand*, etc.

The verb *to be* performs an important linking function. Consider the following sentences.

*Thanks for recommending that ointment: my back **is** a lot better now.*

*He **was** my best friend until I moved to another town.*

*I'll **be** 25 when I graduate from my medical school.*

The verb *to prove* is also used in the meaning of “to be”, “to appear”. It is used when we learn about something after some time. The verb *to prove* is often used together with the verb *to be*. For example:

*The series **proved** (to be) a huge success.*

*His accusations **proved** (to be) groundless.*

The verbs *to stay, to remain, to keep, to stand, to continue* can be used in the meaning of *to be, to remain*, but there are several differences between them. For example: *She continued dull.*

To stay and *to remain* are used as both adjectives and nouns. In business communication, the verb *to remain* is more commonly used.

*It **remains** unclear to me what the system's potential drawbacks are.*

*Is it possible to **stay** close friends after a betrayal?*

The verb *to keep* is used only with adjectives.

The next group of actant verbs helps us express how we perceive the world around us. Let's examine the usage features of *to seem, to appear, to feel, to look, to sound, to smell, to taste* [2].

To seem, to appear - both verbs mean to appear, to make an impression, but differ in style and grammar. We use the verb *to seem* when expressing a subjective point of view. The verb *to appear*, on the other hand, does not express a personal opinion. The verb *to appear* is more often found in literature. For example:

*His idea **seems** absurd to me. I wouldn't agree to that.*

*He **appeared** angry that day.*

As for grammar, both verbs can be followed by adjectives with or without *to be*. Likewise, nouns - after the verb *to appear*, they can be followed by the verb *to be*, or after the verb *to seem*, they can be followed by either *to be* or without *to be*.

*The boys at the entrance **appeared** to be high school students.*

*She **seemed** a nice girl at first, but then revealed her true self.*

As can be seen from the examples, it acts as a verb *to seem, to appear*, on the one hand, indicating a certain state of the subjects of these expressions, and on the other hand, it performs a linking function, expressing the presence of the above-mentioned subjects at a certain point in the past.

The verb *to feel* has two main meanings: *to feel* and *to appear*. Each of them can be used as an adjective or a noun. For example:

*I **feel** cold. Can you close the window, please?*

*I **felt** the worst friend ever when I forgot about his birthday.*

*After a long walk, my feet **felt** like cotton wool.*

We convey the information we receive through verbs such as *to look, to sound, to smell, to taste*.

The verbs *to look, to sound*, are usually followed by either an adjective or a noun preceded by the word *like*.

*I **looked** like a complete fool when I put on my brother's shirt.*

*That **sounds** amazing! I wish I could go with you.*

As can be seen, actant verbs have a special role in text creation. In addition to creating connections between various informative centers, verbs in the text also realize logical-semantic connections and direct them in a certain direction. The role of connectives, especially connective verbs, in text formation is undeniable.

References

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