

Lesson 8

Verb Moods

CCSS

L.8.1.c: Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.



Introduction

Verb moods indicate the writer's view as to whether a statement is a fact, a command, a question, a possibility, or something that is contrary to fact.

Verb Mood	Example
Indicative expresses a fact or opinion.	The election will be on Tuesday.
Imperative gives a command, omitting the subject.	Remember to vote.
Interrogative asks a question.	Have you met all the candidates?
Conditional expresses a possibility or uncertainty, often using <i>could</i> , <i>would</i> , or <i>might</i> .	Kim would make the best president.
Subjunctive expresses something contrary to fact, or makes a suggestion, using a <i>that</i> clause.	I wish Tyler were a candidate. I recommend <u>that</u> you vote for Kim.

- When you use the subjunctive mood with a singular subject, use the plural verb form in most cases. If the verb is *be*, use the past plural, *were*, when expressing something contrary to fact.

I suggest that he **join** (not *joins*) the campaign.

Jenna acts as if she **were** (not *was* or *is*) already president.

- When a main clause uses conditional words like *would* or *might*, these words are often unnecessary in the subordinate clause and should be avoided.

I **would have** voted for Maya if she **had** (not *would have*) asked me.



Guided Practice

Rewrite each sentence, changing the mood as indicated in parentheses.

Hint

You can combine a subordinate clause that is subjunctive with a main clause that is conditional.

Example:

If I were you, I would register to vote.

1 If it is not too late, I will vote. (subjunctive and conditional; see Hint) _____

2 Will you vote for Harry for president? (imperative)

3 He commands the stage like a movie star. (subjunctive, using "as if") _____

4 Harry would be an excellent president. (indicative)



For numbers 1–5, choose the correct answer.

1 If you want an intelligent leader, you should choose Marty.

Which revision changes the underlined clause from the conditional to the imperative mood?

- A choose Marty
- B you will choose Marty
- C Marty might be the best choice
- D Marty would be the best choice

2 If all the votes have been counted, is Marty the winner?

Which revision changes the underlined clause from the interrogative to the indicative mood?

- A Marty should be the winner.
- B Marty would be the winner.
- C Marty were the winner.
- D Marty is the winner.

3 They will be surprised when you announce the winner.

Which revision changes the underlined clause from the indicative to the conditional mood?

- A They might be surprised
- B Will they be surprised
- C Surprise them
- D They were surprised

Answer Form

- 1 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 2 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 3 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 4 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 5 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Number Correct

5

4 The committee urged that Travis should consider his vote carefully.

Which of the following is the best substitute for the underlined verb phrase in the sentence?

- A consider
- B will consider
- C considers
- D would consider

5 If Lori was a candidate, I would have voted for her.

Which of the following is the best substitute for the underlined verb in the sentence?

- A will be
- B is
- C were
- D could be

Lesson 9

Shifts in Voice and Mood

CCSS

L.8.1.d: Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.



Introduction

Shifting verb **voice** (active and passive) or **mood** (indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive) within a sentence can make your writing awkward and confuse your reader.

- Avoid changing from the passive voice to the active voice, and vice versa.

Shifts in Voice	
	passive active
Inconsistent:	The Carolina Ballet Theatre was created in 1972, and its founder designed it to be a permanent dance company.
	passive passive
Better:	The Carolina Ballet Theatre was created in 1972, and it was designed by its founder to be a permanent dance company.
	active active
Better:	The founder created the Carolina Ballet Theatre in 1972, and she designed it to be a permanent dance company.

- Avoid shifting from one verb mood to another.

Shifts in Verb Mood	
	imperative indicative
Inconsistent:	Go to the website, and you will read more about the company.
	imperative imperative
Better:	Go to the website, and read more about the company.



Guided Practice

Underline inappropriate shifts in verb voice or mood. Then, on a separate piece of paper, rewrite each sentence to correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice or mood.

Hint

When you use active voice, the subject does the action. When you use passive voice, the subject receives the action.

- 1 The Carolina Ballet Theatre employs ten dancers, and each dancer would be uniquely talented.
- 2 Watch them perform, and you will learn more about ballet.
- 3 Students in the community are reached out to by the dance company, so ballet influences their lives in a positive way.
- 4 The dance company is supported by generous donors, and it has performed in many other countries.



For numbers 1 and 2, read the sentences. Which revision best corrects the shift in verb mood?

- 1** Find out how to get tickets, and it is a good idea to buy them right away.
- A** Find out how to get tickets, and buy them right away.
 - B** You will need to find out how to get tickets, and make sure to buy them right away.
 - C** Did you find out how to get tickets, and it is a good idea to buy them right away?
 - D** Find out how to get tickets, and is it a good idea to buy them right away?

- 2** Melissa Podcasy is a wonderful dancer, and enjoy watching her perform.
- A** Melissa Podcasy is a wonderful dancer, and will you enjoy watching her perform?
 - B** Melissa Podcasy is a wonderful dancer, and you will enjoy watching her perform.
 - C** Is Melissa Podcasy a wonderful dancer, and might you enjoy watching her perform?
 - D** Melissa Podcasy would be a wonderful dancer, and enjoy watching her perform.

Answer Form

- 1 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 2 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 3 (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 4 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Number Correct

4

For numbers 3 and 4, read the sentences. Which revision best corrects the shift in verb voice?

- 3** Podcasy performed with the ballet, and tours were arranged for her by Columbia Artists.
- A** Podcasy has performed, and tours have been arranged for her.
 - B** Podcasy performed with the ballet, and tours have been arranged for her by Columbia Artists.
 - C** Podcasy performed with the ballet, and Columbia Artists arranged tours for her.
 - D** Podcasy was performed with the ballet, and tours happened.
- 4** Performances have been arranged by dancer Timour Bourtasenkov, and he has starred in many roles.
- A** Performances have been arranged, and dancer Timour Bourtasenkov has starred in many roles.
 - B** Performances, arranged by dancer Timour Bourtasenkov, and he has starred in many roles.
 - C** Performances were arranged by dancer Timour Bourtasenkov, and he starred in many roles.
 - D** Dancer Timour Bourtasenkov has arranged performances, and he has starred in many roles.