

## Verb Phrases

A **verb phrase** consists of a main verb and one or more helping verbs.

**EXAMPLES** Did you **see** the meteor shower last night?

One of my cousins in South Carolina **has been training** for the U.S. Olympic wrestling team.

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, underline the complete verb phrase.

**Example 1.** Jillian has been swimming for four years.

1. Jillian's swim team is practicing for a meet.
2. Her team will be competing next month.
3. Jillian will be swimming freestyle.
4. The coach has been teaching new drills.
5. Some of the swimmers are training for the backstroke competition.
6. Jillian has competed in two other meets.
7. She was practicing each morning before school.
8. Now she will be practicing twice a day.
9. The team members are feeling more confident.
10. The coach has helped everyone on the team.
11. Years ago, Jillian could not swim a whole lap.
12. Now she can swim long distances.
13. Her little sister Rebecca has joined the team.
14. Rebecca is improving quickly.
15. She can do the butterfly stroke already.
16. Next year, Rebecca will compete in Jillian's age group.
17. Jillian and Rebecca have never raced one another at a meet.
18. They do race for fun quite often.
19. Swimming is recognized as a very healthful form of exercise.
20. Rebecca and Jillian are enjoying the sport.