

FINITE VERBS

NON-FINITE VERBS

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A FINITE VERB is a verb that has a tense (past, present, future) and can serve as the main verb in a sentence, expressing a complete thought. It also agrees with the subject in person and number. For example, "She sings," "They run," "I am studying."

A NON-FINITE VERB is a verb that does not have tense and cannot serve as the main verb in a sentence. It does not agree with the subject in person and number. Examples include infinitives (to run), participles (running), and gerunds (running). Non-finite verbs often function as nouns, adjectives, or adverbs in a sentence.

10 SENTENCES DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FINITE OR NON-FINITE VERB?

- Finite verbs indicate tense and have a subject-verb agreement, while non-finite verbs do not show tense and do not require subject-verb agreement.
- Finite verbs can act as the main verb in a sentence, while non-finite verbs cannot.
- Finite verbs are usually marked by inflection for tense, mood, voice, and agreement, while non-finite verbs do not have such inflections.
- The subject of a sentence determines the form of the finite verb, while non-finite verbs do not depend on the subject.
- Finite verbs typically appear as the first verb in a sentence, while non-finite verbs typically appear after the subject.

FINITE VERBS

NON-FINITE VERBS

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Finite verb form

Non- Finite verb form

Marked for tenses

Mostly marked for action

Shows agreement with subject

Shows no agreement with subject

Sometimes marked for action

Mostly marked for action

The present form of the verb, the past form of the verb

The past participle, present participle

Categories of finite verb

Categories of Not-finite verb

Present verb form

Infinitive

Past verb form

Bare infinitive

Present participle

Past participle

FINITE AND NON-FINITE VERBS EXAMPLES

Present: an old woman sells flowers.

Past: old women sold flowers.

Future: old women will sell flowers.

Present: An old woman does not sell flowers.

Past: An old woman did not sell flowers.

Future: the students will be raising slogans.

Present: the students are raising slogans.

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NON-FINITE VERBS:

- **Participles**
- **Gerunds**
- **Infinitives**

PARTICIPLES

A participle is a form of a verb that is partly a verb and partly an adjective.

GERUND

A gerund is that form of verb which ends in “ing” and is partly a noun. It is a verbal noun.

Both gerund and infinitive have the force of a noun and a verb.

Therefore, their uses are also similar.

Smoking is injurious to health.

INFINITIVE

The word infinitive is a kind of noun but it also has the feature of the verb.

So we call it verbal noun. The word “to” is used with the infinitive.

However, “to” is not used with certain words such as: bid, bear, see, need, dare, hear, make, let.