

Name: _____ Key

Helping Verbs

Many verbs are just a single word, but there are some that have two parts. There is the main verb that tells the action and another verb, called the **helping verb** that helps the verb be more precise. The helping verb will often be a form of the verb “to be” or the verb “to have.” Other words, called auxiliary verbs, will be the helping verb. These help show future action. Examples of these are “will,” “may,” and “shall.”

Underline the complete verb in each sentence. Circle the helping verb.



1. Jason (will) play video games tomorrow.



2. The surgeon has operated many times before.



3. My little sister is singing like a rock star.



4. Scott can kick better than anyone on the team.



5. The beautiful sailboat was built in 1985.

6. Sarah is walking her puppy in the park.



7. Jake and his dad are using the computer.

8. Mom will bake special cookies for the party.



9. Tim had given his mother some flowers.

10. The very small girl can ski all by herself.



Bonus: Write a sentence that uses a helping verb:

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Student answers will vary. Check sentence.
