

NAME .....

**Lesson 12.5.3 Verbs**

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**EXERCISE 1 Identifying Action and Linking Verbs**

In the paragraph below, underline each action verb, and put a box around each linking verb.

**Hint:** There are two verb phrases.

A **verb phrase** is a verb form preceded by one or more helping (auxiliary) verbs. Adverbs such as *never* and *not* (or *n't* in a contraction) are never part of the verb phrase.

**Verb phrase:**

Louis XIV *had never believed* in moderation.

<sup>1</sup> King Louis XIV of France became a model of absolute monarchy and extreme excess during his seventy-two-year reign. <sup>2</sup> Even in his own lifetime, people referred to him as The Great, The Grand Monarch, and The Sun King. <sup>3</sup> As a member of the monarchy, Louis XIV himself created his larger-than-life persona. <sup>4</sup> He was a vain and confident individual. <sup>5</sup> A victim of neglect, humiliation, cold, and hunger during the civil war of his childhood, Louis XIV's humble beginnings only fueled his later rise.

<sup>6</sup> Louis XIV succeeded his father as king before turning five. <sup>7</sup> When he was nine, the nobles and the Paris Parlement revolted against the monarchy and Cardinal Mazarin, the prime minister and Louis XIV's godfather and mentor. <sup>8</sup> A civil war followed, and it led to years of hardship for the young king. <sup>9</sup> He never forgave the nobles or Paris. <sup>10</sup> After Mazarin's death, Louis XIV defied tradition and seized complete control of the kingdom. <sup>11</sup> He believed in the divine right of the monarchy, and he perceived any disobedience as a sin. <sup>12</sup> Yet punishment of the nobles had little effect. <sup>13</sup> Ultimately, Louis XIV weakened the nobility by inviting its members into his court. <sup>14</sup> The nobles enjoyed the lavish banquets and entertainments; they did not revolt. <sup>15</sup> With them in his court, the king could spy on them and ultimately render them powerless against him. <sup>16</sup> Louis XIV was a clever ruler.

**EXERCISE 2 Finding Verbs and Verb Phrases**

In the following sentences, underline any verbs and verb phrases.

**EXAMPLE** Louis XIV may have appeared self-indulgent, but during his reign, he expanded the power of the military and the church in France.

1. Didn't Louis XIV love fame above everything, even life itself?
2. He had chosen the sun as his emblem because it was a heavenly, life-giving body.
3. Apollo, god of the sun, was recognized as the god of peace and the arts, and Louis XIV had similarly brought peace to his people and cultivated the arts.
4. Versailles, the elaborate palace outside of Paris, isolated the king from his people and ruined the nation financially.
5. How does Louis XIV's image overshadow his leadership abilities and personal strength?