

Name: _____

Verbs Test With Bugs...

Reading Level 3

Part One | Verb Phrases

Directions: Read each sentence and identify the complete verb phrase (main verb and any helping verbs). Circle your answer.



- Ladybug's sparkly shoes shimmered in the summer sunlight.
 - shimmered
 - shimmered in
 - shoes shimmered
 - shimmered in the
- Cricket will be playing his violin outside your window all night long.
 - playing
 - be playing
 - will be playing
 - will be playing his
- Flea and his ten thousand brothers were afraid of the ravenous Dragonfly.
 - were
 - were afraid
 - afraid of
 - were afraid of
- Bee's mother had warned him about Hornet and Wasp's negative influence on his life.
 - had
 - had warned
 - warned
 - had warned him
- Ladybug put on her favorite spotted dress and went to the spring dance with her friend Dragonfly.
 - put
 - went to dance
 - put and dance
 - put and went
- Ant could lift 50 times his weight in stale pizza crusts and crumbs from hotdog buns.
 - could
 - lift
 - could lift
 - could lift in
- The ill-reputed Hornet and Wasp are not allowed at the picnic with Ant and Ladybug.
 - are
 - allowed
 - are allowed
 - are allowed at

8. Mantis brushed her mandibles and washed her hands after the meal with her boyfriend.
- a) brushed
 - b) brushed her
 - c) brushed and washed
 - d) brushed her and washed her
9. Bee will be buzzing by flowers and through showers for hours this spring.
- a) buzzing
 - b) will be
 - c) be buzzing
 - d) will be buzzing
10. Tick is having a warm, refreshing drink of camper's blood with a twist of Lyme disease.
- a) is
 - b) drink
 - c) drink of
 - d) is having
11. Butterfly fluttered by the fly beside the butter knife another time.
- a) fluttered
 - b) by
 - c) fluttered by
 - d) fluttered by the
12. Mantis invited her boyfriend over for an afternoon snack.
- a) invited
 - b) invited her
 - c) invited for an
 - d) invited for snack
13. Hornet and Wasp were flying around and looking for trouble as usual.
- a) were flying
 - b) were flying and looking
 - c) flying and looking
 - d) were flying around and looking
14. Can you hear Cricket's song in your lawn at dawn?
- a) hear
 - b) Can hear
 - c) Can you hear
 - d) song

Part Two | Conjugation, Tense, and Aspect

Directions: Read each sentence. Choose the answer that best completes it based on conjugation, tense, and aspect. Circle your answer.

15. Ant _____ his crumbs with his friend Lady Bug until that treacherous Spider arrived.
- a) were going to share
 - b) we're going to share
 - c) was going to share
 - d) will be sharing

16. Wasp and Hornet _____ around the yard and looking for some unfortunate fool to sting.
- a) flew
b) was flying
c) had flown
d) were flying
17. "If I _____ Bee, I'd mind my own beeswax," said Hornet to his temperamental friend Wasp.
- a) were
b) we're
c) was
d) where
18. If Ant _____ that it was going to rain so heavily, he wouldn't have even came to the picnic.
- a) knew
b) had knew
c) had known
d) knows
19. The beautiful Mantis _____ at her bigheaded boyfriend and licking her lips.
- a) looks
b) looked
c) had looked
d) was looking
20. Tick _____ very thirsty by the time the careless campers begin to set up their tents.
- a) is
b) will be
c) had been
d) has been
21. After Grasshopper jumped through Spider's living room, Spider _____ that it was time to build a new home.
- a) decide
b) decided
c) decides
d) will decide
22. Flea _____ of his ten-thousand brothers borrowing his things without asking.
- a) sick
b) was sick
c) were sick
d) we're sick
23. Fly _____ the cookie crumbs, but he flew off to find something stinkier.
- a) could a ate
b) could of eaten
c) could a eaten
d) could have eaten
24. Spider, a natural homebody, _____ a new room to his home below the gutter.
- a) be busy adding
b) we're busy adding
c) was busy adding
d) were busy adding

25. Wasp _____ Bee pollinate the flowers, but Wasp was much too busy harassing children.
- a) would a helped b) would of helped
c) would of help d) would have helped
26. " _____ too busy eating this dog," said Flea to his diseased and parasitic friend Tick.
- a) Were b) We's
c) We're d) We was
27. Fly _____ by Butterfly during Spider's supptime.
- a) flew b) flied
c) flyed d) flown
28. Mantis _____ pantless in Kansas.
- a) dances and prances b) dances and prancing
c) dancing and prances d) danced and prancing
29. Ant _____ more food for the winter, but he was busy playing with that knucklehead Grasshopper.
- a) should a stored b) should of store
c) should of stored d) should have stored
30. Spider _____ before he took a rejuvenating nap.
- a) is exhausted b) has been exhausted
c) had been exhausted d) was going to be exhausted
31. Flea, Moth, and Tick _____ a riotous insect party in your sweater.
- a) throwing b) is throwing
c) be throwing d) are throwing
32. Fly _____ the nauseating scent of my locker.
- a) love b) loves
c) be loving d) loving
33. Ladybug, Bee, and Mantis _____ an afternoon tea party for the ladies.
- a) planning b) is planning
c) are planning d) was planning