

# Substitute with Strong Linking Verbs Worksheet

Eliminate "to be" verbs (is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been) by substituting them with strong linking verbs (appear, become, feel, grow, look, prove, remain, seem, smell, sound, stay, taste).

Common Core State Standards W.3, 4, 5 and L.2, 3

Depth of Knowledge Levels 1, 2, 3



**Directions:** Write the strong linking verbs in the right column which can substitute for the weak "to be" verbs used in the first column. Change the linking verbs for singular subjects and for past tense.

**Example:** They are happy.      appear, look, seem

"To Be" Verb Sentences	Strong Linking Verbs
1. They are ready to come home.	
2. The food is fine to me.	
3. They will be here for two weeks.	
4. We had been good friends.	
5. His response was really mean	
6. Their voices were louder than his.	
7. They are being a real problem.	
8. I am happy for their success.	

**Formative Assessment:** Write an original sentence using a strong linking verb.


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"To Be" Verb Sentences	Strong Linking Verbs
1. They are ready to come home.	appear, look, seem
2. The food is fine to me.	appears, looks, seems, smells, tastes
3. They will be here for two weeks.	remain, stay
4. We had been good friends.	become, seemed, stayed
5. His response was really mean	felt, proved, seemed, sounded
6. Their voices were louder than his.	became, grew, proved, seemed
7. They are being a real problem.	become, remain, seem
8. I am happy for their success.	feel, grow, remain

**Formative Assessment:** Write an original sentence using a strong linking verb.

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