• A linking verb does not show action. It connects the subject to the rest of the sentence.
• Is, are, am, was, and were are often used as linking verbs.

Read each sentence. Study the linking verbs in parentheses. Write the form of the linking verb that correctly completes each sentence.

1. The story we read (was, were) ___________ Mystic Horse.

2. It (is, are) ___________ about the Native American Pawnee tribe.

3. My classmates (was, were) ___________ excited to learn more about this tribe.

4. Our school field trips (is, are) ___________ next month.

5. The Natural History Museum (is, are) ___________ the place we will visit.

6. The museum’s exhibit on the Plains Native Americans (is, are) ___________ wonderful.

7. The Pawnee, Omaha, and Oto tribes (was, were) ___________ Plains tribes.

8. I (am, are) ___________ Native American on my mother’s side of the family.

9. Reading the tribes’ own words and stories (is, are) ___________ the best way to learn their history.

10. The stories (is, are) ___________ fascinating to me.
Grammar: Agreement of Subject and Linking Verb

- Use *am* or *was* with *I*. Use *am* in the present tense. Use *was* in the past tense.
- Use *is* or *was* with **singular subjects** or with *he, she, or it*. Use *is* in the present tense. Use *was* in the past tense.
- Use *are* or *were* with **plural subjects** or with *you, we, or they*. Use *are* in the present tense. Use *were* in the past tense.
- Use *will be* for all subjects in the future tense.

A. Write *am, is,* or *are* to complete each sentence.

1. Mr. Hernandez __________ a teacher at our school.

2. I __________ in his history class.

3. I think he __________ a great teacher.

4. His words __________ a great inspiration to me.

5. They __________ words to listen to and learn from.

B. Write *was, were,* or *will be* to complete each sentence.

6. Yesterday, our lesson __________ about Abraham Lincoln.

7. He __________ the sixteenth president of the United States.

8. The Gettysburg Address __________ one speech that he gave.

9. The words he spoke __________ simple but very meaningful.

10. In the future, I __________ inspired by his message of hope and equality.
A. Find the linking verb in each sentence. Write it on the line.

1. The college my sister Sharon goes to is in Nebraska. _______________

2. Sharon and her friends were hard workers in high school.
   _______________

3. Even when she was little, she was interested in the Pawnee tribe.
   _______________

4. Pawnee folktales are part of what she studies in college.
   _______________

B. Find the noun or adjective in the predicate that is linked to the subject by a linking verb. Write the noun or adjective on the line.

5. Pedro’s favorite book is Mystic Horse. _______________

6. The lives of the Plains Indians were different from ours.
   _______________

7. Dr. Gonzalez and Dr. Lasser are experts on the Pawnee tribe.
   _______________

8. Pedro’s report on the Plains Indians was very detailed.
   _______________