

### 3. Verbs – our headache.

Here is the painkiller for your headache.

#### A. Let's start with a quick revision.

1. *I love to eat apples, but Mary loves to eat oranges.*
2. *I enjoy eating apples, but Mary enjoys drinking apple juice.*

**Question 1:** Which words are verbs in sentences 1 and 2 above?

**Answer:** *love, to eat, loves, enjoy, enjoys, eating, drinking*

**Question 2:** Which verbs change when the **subjects** change?

**Answer:** *love* → *loves*; *enjoy* → *enjoys* ( ∴ *I* → *Mary*)

(“love” and “enjoy” are **finite verbs**.)

**Painkiller 1:** There is only **ONE finite verb** in a simple sentence.

**Painkiller 2:** “to eat” and “eating” are verbs but **not finite verbs**, and they do **NOT** change when the subjects change.

#### B. Three basic types of verbs:

1. **Be** = *is, are, am, was, were, will be, has been, have been, had been*
2. **Modal** = *can, could, should, would, may, might, must* (enough for IELTS Speaking and Writing)
3. **Other verbs** (and their forms): e.g., *do-did-done-doing; play-played-playing*

#### C. Exercise: Highlight the finite verbs and modal verbs

- **BE** in red,
- **MODAL** in blue, [we always use the original form of a verb after a modal, e.g. **can go**, not goes, not went]
- All others in **yellow**.

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Answer:

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