

FROM THE DESK OF A HELPING VERB ...

Memo: To: 6th Grade Students

From: A Helping Verb

Re: Job description

Let me tell you a little about myself. I combine with a main verb to help it express tense, mood, and voice. I'm also called an Auxiliary Verb, but that's pretty formal.

The energetic Action Verb and the mellow Linking Verb get all the attention, and that's okay with me. I know they need my help. Besides, as the old saying goes, behind every successful main verb is a great Helping Verb.

I'm part of the verb phrase, but I can't stand alone, so I don't go anywhere without my main verb, whether it's an Action Verb or Linking Verb. Sometimes, I'll even bring one or two more helping verbs into the verb phrase with me.

Have you met my friend, Mr. Do? May be Mr. Do should have a will? What do you think?

I like to think I really help get things done. After all, you can say, "You can do it!" without a Helping Verb!

***List 5 characteristics of a HELPING VERB as explained in the memo above.**

***Underline or highlight the answers in the memo, and write them on the lines.**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____