

Compound Verbs

1g. A **compound verb** consists of two or more verbs that are joined by a conjunction and that have the same subject.

EXAMPLE Which mammal **has** wings and **can fly** like a bird?

EXERCISE A Underline each compound verb or verb phrase.

Example 1. Can a mammal move as fast as a car and rise as high as an airplane?

- Some bats can fly sixty miles per hour and can also soar to a height of ten thousand feet.
- Some species of bats fly much more slowly and cannot reach the same heights as others do.
- In all, more than nine hundred species of bats exist and find habitats worldwide.
- Bats are the world's only flying mammals and may have wingspans of over five feet.
- The flying fox, a fruit bat, hangs in trees and can have a wingspread more than five feet across.
- The bumblebee bat has a five-inch wingspan and weighs less than a dime.
- All mammals, including bats and humans, grow fur or hair and nurse their young.
- Honduran white bats grow long white fur and eat only fruit.
- The vampire bat drinks cows' blood but seldom consumes human blood.
- This bat bites its prey and then hungrily laps blood from the wound.

EXERCISE B Add a compound verb to complete each of the following sentences. Use *and*, *or*, or *but* to join the parts of your compound verb.

Example 1. Can bats fly and roost in the darkness of the cave?

- In the backyard, my puppy _____.
- _____ Keisha _____ during lunch period?
- Every so often, I _____.
- We _____ at the track after school.
- _____ the seventh graders _____?
- Birds and squirrels _____ with each other at the bird feeder.
- The runners _____ before they went to the starting line.
- _____ you and Suzi _____ before dinner?
- Each student _____ a paper on a topic of his or her choice.
- The ball _____ toward the end zone.