

Lesson Plan

Double Duty

Book: *Shohei Ohtani: Baseball Star*

Series: Biggest Names in Sports

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students determine if a word is functioning as a noun or a verb in a specific sentence.

Supplies

- *Shohei Ohtani: Baseball Star* book
- Double Duty activity (attached)
- Bowl

Before the Activity

Read *Shohei Ohtani: Baseball Star* out loud to students, or assign it to students to read on their own. Print the Double Duty activity and cut it so each pair of sentences is on a separate slip of paper. Fold each slip in half and place it inside the bowl.

Activity

Often, we talk about some words being nouns and other words being verbs, but—similar to the way Ohtani excels at both pitching and hitting—certain words can act as either nouns or verbs. For example, page 6 says, “A wild **pitch** allowed a runner to score from third base.” In this sentence, the word *pitch* is a noun—it is the thing that allows a runner to score. However, the word *pitch* acts as a verb on page 14, which says, “But they were nervous about letting him **pitch** and hit.” In this sentence, the word *pitch* describes an action.

Many other English words can be either verbs or nouns, depending on how they are used in a particular sentence. To help students practice determining if a word is a noun or verb, play the following game. Divide students into two teams. One is Team Noun. The other is Team Verb. Have students sit in a circle, alternating so that each student is sitting between two members of the opposite team. On each student’s turn, he or she will draw a slip of paper from the bowl. Students from Team Noun must identify which sentence uses the bolded word as a noun. Students from Team Verb must find the sentence where the bolded word is a verb. If a student guesses correctly, his or her team gets one point. Then the bowl passes to the next person in the circle. The team with the most points when the bowl is empty wins.

Evaluation

Use the attached answer key to check students' answers.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 3 (L 3.1, 3.5).

Double Duty

1. finish

- A. It was easy for me to **finish** washing the car once I got started.
- B. She pulled ahead of the other runners just before the **finish**.

2. answer

- A. It's hard to **answer** a question that you've never thought of before.
- B. We didn't understand her **answer** because her mouth was full.

3. return

- A. My brother's safe **return** from his travels made my parents glad.
- B. The email reminded me to **return** the books to the library.

4. cover

- A. My grandma puts a **cover** on her couch to protect it from cat hair.
- B. Old blankets **cover** the plants to protect them from the cold.

5. blame

- A. It's easy to **blame** other people instead of admitting our mistakes.
- B. We all made the mess, but no one wanted to take the **blame**.

6. divide

- A. If we **divide** the brownie in fourths, we can each eat part of it.
- B. The **divide** between the rich and the poor continued to grow.

7. bound

- A. The huge dog jumped the fence in one easy **bound**.
- B. The puppies **bound** across the front yard to greet me.

8. butter

- A. Both my brothers always **butter** their toast.
- B. The recipe called for two cups of **butter**.

9. score

- A. At the bottom of the ninth inning, the **score** was 13 to 3.
- B. I jumped up and cheered each time I saw my sister **score**.

10. total

- A. She gasped when she saw the **total** at the bottom of the bill.
- B. When they **total** the scores, I hope our team still comes out ahead.

11. **fumble**

- A. His thick gloves made him **fumble** with the door before it would open.
- B. The rookie's **fumble** allowed the other team to score.

12. **update**

- A. The coach made sure to **update** each player's stats after the game.
- B. We waited for an **update** about the schedule, but it never came.

13. **promise**

- A. I said I'd be there, and I want to keep my **promise**.
- B. My sister lets me borrow her tablet if I **promise** to bring it back.

14. **influence**

- A. She tried to be a good **influence** on the younger players.
- B. Our experiences **influence** how we see the world.

15. **accent**

- A. The room was mostly gray, with white trim as an **accent**.
- B. The jerseys' dark blue color would **accent** the team's logo.

16. **resolve**

- A. Despite the cold rain, the cheers strengthened the runner's **resolve**.
- B. He hoped they would **resolve** their conflict.

17. **water**

- A. The diver did a flip before slipping into the **water**.
- B. She always forgot to **water** the plants on her porch.

18. **account**

- A. The rock band couldn't **account** for their sudden popularity.
- B. I deposit some of each paycheck into an **account** at the bank.

19. **forecast**

- A. Experts **forecast** lots of snow this weekend.
- B. I checked the **forecast** before heading outside.

20. **impact**

- A. The crash's **impact** sent both cars skidding off the road.
- B. It's important to consider how your actions **impact** others.

21. **pride**

- A. The coach beamed with **pride** as her team lifted the trophy.
- B. I **pride** myself on my ability to cook.

22. **mistake**

- A. Three people walked by the sign without spotting the **mistake**.
- B. I sometimes **mistake** the howling wind for a wolf.

23. **desire**

- A. Many young athletes **desire** to compete in the Olympics.
- B. His **desire** for adventure can never be satisfied.

24. **attempt**

- A. Her first **attempt** at skiing did not go as well as she had hoped.
- B. I will now **attempt** a trick no skateboarder has done before.

25. **track**

- A. It was hard for the dogs to **track** the scent in the snow.
- B. We ran around the **track** four times.

26. **gaze**

- A. I followed my cat's **gaze**, but I still didn't see a bird in the yard.
- B. The baby loved to **gaze** up at the spinning mobile.

27. **prompt**

- A. I had to **prompt** my brother several times before he told the whole story.
- B. The actor needed a **prompt** to remember the rest of his lines.

28. **question**

- A. The sloppy records made us **question** the experiment's results.
- B. I repeated the **question** louder so my grandpa could hear.

29. **encounter**

- A. We hoped to **encounter** a few surprises along the way.
- B. After an **encounter** with a bear, my cousin no longer enjoys camping.

30. **surge**

- A. I felt a **surge** of anger when they knocked down my sand castle.
- B. A crowd of people will **surge** forward as soon as the fair's gate opens.

31. **outline**

- A. The artists **outline** each tree in pencil before beginning to paint.
- B. I drew a thick **outline** around each letter on the sign.

32. **report**

- A. Officials **report** that there have been fewer robberies this year.
- B. The yearly **report** showed that the company's sales had doubled.

33. **support**

- A. People marched to show **support** for the cause.
- B. My parents try to **support** local businesses.

34. **cushion**

- A. The powdery snow helped **cushion** the snowboarder's fall.
- B. We folded up the blanket to use as a **cushion**.

35. **exchange**

- A. After an **exchange** of angry remarks, the coaches finally settled down.
- B. The shirt was too big, so I decided to **exchange** it for a smaller one.

36. **raise**

- A. The teenagers asked their boss for a **raise**.
- B. Before each game, the players **raise** their fists and cheer.

37. **transfer**

- A. It took a while to **transfer** all my books from one shelf to another.
- B. The **transfer** of the league's best player shocked fans.

38. **puncture**

- A. The **puncture** kept the beach ball from holding any air.
- B. We thought driving over a nail would **puncture** the car's tire.

39. **grip**

- A. Players may **grip** a tennis racket with both hands or use just one.
- B. I tightened my **grip** on my dog's leash when I saw the cat.

40. **splinter**

- A. When he picked up the log, a **splinter** got stuck in his finger.
- B. The baseball hit the window and caused the glass to **splinter**.

Double Duty Answer Key

1. finish A. VERB B. NOUN	11. fumble A. VERB B. NOUN	21. pride A. NOUN B. VERB	31. outline A. VERB B. NOUN
2. answer A. VERB B. NOUN	12. update A. VERB B. NOUN	22. mistake A. NOUN B. VERB	32. report A. VERB B. NOUN
3. return A. NOUN B. VERB	13. promise A. NOUN B. VERB	23. desire A. VERB B. NOUN	33. support A. NOUN B. VERB
4. cover A. NOUN B. VERB	14. influence A. NOUN B. VERB	24. attempt A. NOUN B. VERB	34. cushion A. VERB B. NOUN
5. blame A. VERB B. NOUN	15. accent A. NOUN B. VERB	25. track A. VERB B. NOUN	35. exchange A. NOUN B. VERB
6. divide A. VERB B. NOUN	16. resolve A. NOUN B. VERB	26. gaze A. NOUN B. VERB	36. raise A. NOUN B. VERB
7. bound A. NOUN B. VERB	17. water A. NOUN B. VERB	27. prompt A. VERB B. NOUN	37. transfer A. VERB B. NOUN
8. butter A. VERB B. NOUN	18. account A. VERB B. NOUN	28. question A. VERB B. NOUN	38. puncture A. NOUN B. VERB
9. score A. NOUN B. VERB	19. forecast A. VERB B. NOUN	29. encounter A. VERB B. NOUN	39. grip A. VERB B. NOUN
10. total A. NOUN B. VERB	20. impact A. NOUN B. VERB	30. surge A. NOUN B. VERB	40. splinter A. NOUN B. VERB