A verb phrase is made up of a main verb, the most important verb in a verb phrase, and one or more helping verbs.

Examples:
My teacher will tell us about Peru.
Mr. Vargas has been living here for twelve years.

**DIRECTIONS**

Write the verb phrases from each sentence. Circle the main verb.

1. Within the next decade, we may be traveling to other planets.

2. One of the first stops could be Phobus, a moon of Mars.

3. Discussions have already been held among scientists in several countries.

4. In the past, such joint ventures were thought difficult.

5. However, many people have changed their thinking and are now rearranging their priorities.

6. Joint ventures could result in increased understanding between people of different backgrounds.

7. Mother otters will protect their young carefully.

8. In case of danger, a mother will dive below the surface.

9. People on otter-watching expeditions should keep their boats a good distance away from mothers and pups.

**DIRECTIONS**

Rewrite each sentence, adding one or more helping verbs to the main verb in parentheses.

10. Peaceful cooperation in outer space (take) people on fantastic adventures in the very near future.

11. By the year 2020, scientists (live) and (work) on Phobus.

12. Perhaps people (learn) to get along when they must live together far from Earth.

13. LaKeesha (admire) the sea otters at the aquarium.