

Transitive Verb List

A transitive verb is an action verb that requires the addition of an object to complete its meaning. “Bell invented phones.” The verb “invented” requires a word to complete its meaning. The object of a transitive word is not always expressed but some word different from the subject can be made the object.

An intransitive verb is an action verb that does NOT require the addition of an object to complete its meaning. “People think.” The verb “think” does NOT require another word to complete its meaning.

The only way to tell the difference between transitive and intransitive verbs is by its use.

An action verb is a word that expresses the action of the subject of a sentence. Action verbs are formed in the active voice. Jim runs. “Runs” is the action of the subject “Jim”.

A passive verb is a word that shows that the subject is being acted upon. Passive verbs are formed in the passive voice.

An object is a word, or a group of words, that completes the meaning of the verb in a sentence, an object does not do the action. In the sentence, “Girls learn sewing.” the word “sewing” is needed to complete the predicate “learn”. Those verbs that require the addition of an object to complete their meaning are called transitive verbs.

A direct object is the noun or pronoun that receives the action of a transitive verb in the ACTIVE voice and is formed in the objective case. It is one objective complement. A bug hit Ann. “Ann” is the direct object of the verb “hit”.

An indirect object is the noun or pronoun that receives the direct object and is formed in the objective case. It is another objective complement. Ann gave him a cookie. The word “him” receives the direct object “cookie”.