

Action Verbs

1. **Action Verb**: tells what a subject is performing
 - Ex. Dad **plants** tulip bulbs every fall.
 - Ex. Karen **skated** across the frozen pond.
 - Ex. Tom **painted** the house.
 - Ex. The horse **waited** patiently.
2. **Mental Action**: Jose **remembered** the formula.
3. **Possession**: Toby **has** a new friend.
4. **Verb Phrase**: is a main verb plus one or more helping verbs.
 - Ex. John **should have announced** the contest in homeroom today.
 - Ex. Barbara **will** surely help you with your math before the test tomorrow.
 - Ex. **Shouldn't** Robin **go** with us?

Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

To decide whether a verb is transitive or intransitive, say the subject and the verb. Ask *What?* Or *Whom?* A word that has an object is *transitive* and a verb that does not have an object in *intransitive*.

TRANSITIVE: Josh always **eats** dinner late. [Josh eats what? *Dinner* is the object. Therefore, *eats* is a transitive verb.]

INTRANSITIVE: The car **skidded** on the icy road. [The car skidded what? The car skidded whom? Since there is no object, *skidded* is an intransitive verb.]

The same verb can be transitive in one sentence and intransitive in another sentence.

TRANSITIVE: Carrie sang a song for us. [Carrie sang what? Song is the object.]

INTRANSITIVE: Carrie sang at the Civic Center. [Carrie sang what? There is no the object.]

Linking Verbs: Verbs that link or join the subject with another word in the sentence are called *linking verbs*.

Ex. Tim **is** my brother. [*Is* links *brother* and the subject, *Tim*.]

Ex. The feverish calf **is** miserable and scared. [*Is* connects the subject *calf* with the words *miserable* and *scared*.]

Ex. **Have** you **been** sad lately? [Turn a question into a statement: *You have been sad lately*. Then you can easily see that *have been* links *sad* and the subject *you*.]

Linking Verbs: Common Forms of Be

be	am being	shall be	have been
is	are being	will be	has been
am	is being	can be	had been
are	was being	could be	could have been
was	were being	should be	should have been
were		would be	may have been
		may be	might have
		might be	must have been

Other Linking Verbs: allows another word in the sentence to name or describe the subject of the sentence

appear	feel	look	seem	sound	taste
become	grow	remain	smell	stay	turn