

R/W HOMEWORK

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LIVE WORKSHEETS

Grammar Focus: Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

Verbs can be grouped into transitive or intransitive verbs.

1. Transitive Verbs I

Transitive verbs are verbs that need an object. An object is a noun that receives the action of the verb. Objects are nouns or gerunds. Transitive verbs usually CANNOT be used intransitively.

Ex John **broke** the lawn mower. (object: the lawn mower)



They **sell** cheap desktop computers. (object: cheap desktop computers)



The reporter **wrote** the article. (object: the article)



Check the transitive verbs:

Wash _____

Cry _____

Write _____

Work _____

Admire _____

Talk _____

Love _____

Laugh _____

Sell _____

2. Intransitive Verbs

Intransitive verbs involve a subject but they do NOT have an object.
Intransitive verbs are often followed by adverbial or prepositional phrases.
Intransitive verbs usually CANNOT be used transitively.

Ex The firm's best welder **resigned** yesterday. (adverbial)
I **am waiting** in the lobby. (prepositional)

Check the intransitive verbs:

Wash _____ Arrive _____ Write _____ Vote _____ Admire _____

Sit _____ Love _____ Increase _____ Sell _____

3. Transitive Verbs II

Some transitive verbs may have two objects—a direct object and an indirect object. Indirect objects usually refer to people. They answer the question “To whom?” or “From whom?” Direct objects are the objects of the action. They answer the question “Who?” or “What?” Direct and indirect objects can change position if “to” is used before the indirect object.

Ex He **gave** me¹ the cake². (1 = Indirect object, 2 = direct object)
He **gave** the cake¹ to me². (1 = direct object, 2 = indirect object)

Finding the Object

Write the direct object found in each of the following sentences

Miriam borrowed my book. _____

Donovan gave the laptop to his sister. _____

We will collect money for the party. _____

4. Verbs Which Are Both

Some verbs can be used both transitively and intransitively. Sometimes, the object can be omitted if the context is obvious. For some verbs, the meaning of the transitive form and the intransitive form is different.

Ex *Obvious Context:*

She called when I **was reading**.

(a book → obvious context)

I **am eating** right now.

(food → obvious context)

Difference in Meaning:

Transitive: He **manages** the sales department.

(supervise)

Intransitive: I don't need help—I can **manage** on my own. (handle)

Transitive: She **runs** her own business.

(control and manage)

Intransitive: He **runs** very quickly.

(move with your legs)

Hints

- Does the verb need an object?
- Is there a direct and an indirect object?
- Can the verb be used both transitively and intransitively?



Practice 1:

Write an **I** next to the sentence with an Intransitive verb and **T** next to the sentence with a Transitive verb.

1. Brian exaggerates all the time. _____
2. I enjoy reading about fashion. _____
3. She donated \$100 to charity. _____
4. The police investigated the crime. _____
5. The employees gossiped a lot. _____



Continue...

6. The accident victims demanded compensation. _____
7. A strange incident happened last night. _____
8. The police arrested a man yesterday. _____
9. Have you paid yet? _____
10. The computing magazine criticized the new software. _____



Practice 2:

Tip Box

Intransitive verbs are never used in the passive.

Ex An accident **happened**. ✓

An accident **was happened**. ✗

Look at the underlined verbs in the following sentences. Decide if they are used transitively or intransitively by checking the box.

1. The news van <u>arrived</u> 30 minutes ago.	Transitive	Intransitive
2. The media <u>criticized</u> the government for its inaction.	Transitive	Intransitive
3. I <u>read</u> before going to bed.	Transitive	Intransitive
4. GBS <u>broadcasts</u> a news program nightly at 10 p.m.	Transitive	Intransitive
5. Law <u>is</u> a difficult profession.	Transitive	Intransitive

READING STRATEGY

Reading Strategy: Skimming

One important reading strategy for TOEIC® is skimming. Skimming is the technique of reading quickly for main ideas and keywords. Skimming during the TOEIC® allows you to save time. This is most helpful in Part 7 of the test.

How to Skim:

- Quickly run your eyes over the passage. Read the title, topic sentence, and concluding sentence carefully, but only briefly read the rest. Pay attention to keywords in the text, but skip the other words.
- Keywords are content words. They are necessary to a sentence's meaning. Keywords are most often nouns and sometimes verbs.
- Do NOT spend time trying to read and understand every word. This will only waste time when skimming.