

Name _____ Date _____

4 TRANSITIVE AND INTRANSITIVE VERBS

A transitive verb directs action toward someone or something named in the sentence.

An intransitive verb does not direct action toward anyone or anything named in the sentence.

The word that receives the action of a transitive verb is called the object of the verb. You can determine whether a verb has an object by asking *whom* or *what* after the verb.

Transitive: The boy lost his jacket. (Lost what? his jacket)

Intransitive: The baby cried loudly. (Cried what? [no answer])

Practice A Identifying Transitive Verbs and Their Objects

Read each sentence. Then, underline the verb and circle the object of the verb.

Example: Mom baked a delicious cake.

Answer: Mom baked a delicious cake.

1. Tim sold hot chocolate at the game.
2. Kelly wore glasses.
3. Mom and Dad ate all of the pie.
4. The kitten scratched my hand.
5. I pictured success in my mind.
6. Chris took the garbage to the curb.
7. Michael forgot his backpack.
8. Belle asked several questions.
9. The dog ate the leftovers.
10. The doctor washed his hands.

Practice B Distinguishing Between Transitive Verbs and Intransitive Verbs

Read each sentence. Then, write the action verb and label it transitive or intransitive.

Example: The baby cried for her bottle.

Answer: cried—intransitive

1. Miette walked to the store. _____
2. James did his homework. _____
3. Ethan played his guitar all morning. _____
4. The grass grew quickly. _____
5. The plane holds over a hundred people. _____
6. Chloe sprained her ankle. _____
7. Benjamin runs faster than anybody else. _____
8. Mr. Young wants a new dog. _____
9. Steve forgot the party. _____
10. His mom washed the dishes. _____

Writing and Speaking Application

Write four sentences, two with transitive verbs and two with intransitive verbs. Read your sentences to a partner. Your partner should listen for each verb and name it *transitive* or *intransitive*. Then, switch roles with your partner.