

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

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There are two kinds of action verbs: **transitive** and **intransitive**. Transitive verbs always have an object. For example, in the sentence "I sold the guitar," "sold" is a transitive verb and "guitar" is the direct object. Intransitive verbs don't have direct objects. For example, in the sentence "I slept," "slept" is an intransitive verb because it doesn't require a direct object.

A good way to figure out if a verb is transitive or intransitive is to ask "What?" or "Whom?" after the verb in question. If the sentence answers either question, then the verb is transitive and has a direct object.

**Transitive example:**

Sarah walked the dog.

*Walked who or what? the dog*

"walked" is transitive; "dog" is the direct object

**Intransitive example:**

Robert wandered through the mall.

*Wandered who? Wandered what?*

*No word in the sentence answers the question.*

"wandered" is intransitive

**Directions:** Read the sentences below. Next to each sentence, write **T** if the verb is transitive or **I** if the verb is intransitive.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Emma studied all night.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Charlie studied the textbook.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Mr. Martinez bought an antique couch.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. My neighbor jogs every morning.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. My boyfriend cried during *Titanic*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The cello player practices in the park.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. I serenaded my grandmother on her birthday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. I slept soundly last night.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. My sister memorized every song from *West Side Story*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The basketball team won the game.