

Unit 2 — Verb II Recognizing Action Verbs

- A verb shows action, links another word to the subject, helps another verb, or indicates existence.
Jerry **washed** his car. – action verb
The banquet **was** delightful. – linking verb
We **had moved** from Wyoming. – helping verb
The visitors **are** in the lobby. – being
 - An action verb expresses physical or mental action.
eat, drink, run, play, speak, hear, throw
think, hope, wish, believe, presume, meditate,
-

Exercise 1

In the following paragraph from Ivan Turgenev's *Fathers and Sons* circle all the **action verbs**.

Pavel Petrovich went back to his artistic study, with its wall covered with handsome bluish-grey hangings, with weapons hanging upon a Persian rug nailed to the wall; with walnut furniture, upholstered in dark green velveteen, with a Renaissance book case of old black oak, with bronze statuettes on the magnificent writing-table, with an open hearth. He threw himself on the sofa, clasped his hands behind his head, and remained without moving, looking with a face almost of despair at the ceiling. Whether he wanted to hide from the very walls that which was reflected in his face, or for some other reason, he went up, drew the heavy window curtains, and again threw himself on the sofa.

Exercise 2

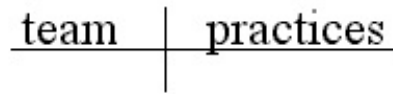
Action verbs show both physical and mental action. Fill in the following blanks with a quick list of your own action verbs (don't copy the ones from above.) Then, go back and circle the ones which show mental action.

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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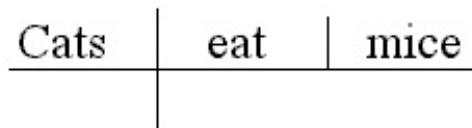
- To diagram **intransitive verbs** place the subject and verb on the baseline with a single vertical line that goes all the way through between them as shown.

The Pirate's football team practices daily.



- To diagram **transitive verbs**: First place the subject and verb on the baseline and separate them. Then place a second line, straight up and down, just touching the top of the base line. (It cannot go all the way through.) Behind it place the direct object on the baseline.

Cats ^{d.o.} eat mice.



Exercise 4

In the spaces provided diagram the odd sentence from Exercise 3.

- Marco Polo lived a life of adventure.
- The Chinese gave gifts of jade, silk, and ivory to the merchants.
- China, or Cathay, interested European traders because of its riches.
- They arrived at home during a war between Venice and Genoa.
- The Polos traveled across the Asian continent on camels.
- In prison, he wrote an exciting account of his travels.
- With his father and uncle, Polo journeyed throughout China for the Khan.
- Polo's book greatly influenced Christopher Columbus.