

## Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

What is a **transitive** verb? A transitive verb requires an object in the form of a noun or pronoun to complete its meaning. This object answers to the questions “*who(m)* or *what*.”

Example: -The students write composition.  
What do the students write? Compositions.  
-Peter loves Mary.  
Who (m) does Peter love? Mary.

Formula: Subject + Verb + Object

What is an **intransitive** verb? An intransitive verb is one that does not require an object to complete its meaning. The sentence may end with the verb, an adjective, or an adverb. The questions one may ask with these forms are “*when, where, how, or why*.”

Example: - The children sat.  
- The children sat at 7:30 pm.  
- The children sat at the table.  
- The children sat quietly.  
- The children sat because their mother told them to.

Try asking questions based on the underlined words. Write them in the blank spaces here:

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Let's see if you can identify the verbs in the following examples. Draw a line under the verb and in the blank space, write *transitive* or *intransitive*.

1. The math professor explains the lesson. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I drive my car to work everyday. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Many students sleep late on the weekends. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Louise finally got her license. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Does your family live in Minnesota? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Mark and Mindy seem unhappy. \_\_\_\_\_
7. When did your friends come to the United States? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. For e-mail, you need a computer. \_\_\_\_\_
9. My dad and I always disagree. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Did you find the address? \_\_\_\_\_