

An Intransitive Verb is one which expresses a state or condition, or an action or feeling that is not directed towards an object, as, Mary sleeps soundly. Dogs run. I rejoice.

Most verbs express *action*. This action may or may not be of such a kind as to *pass over* from the subject to some object. The subject names the *doer of the action*. The object names the *receiver of the action*. In the sentence "Tom strikes the ball," *strikes* is a transitive verb, because the action (striking) passes from *Tom, the doer*, to the *ball, the receiver of the action*. In the sentence "The girl loves her mother," *loves* is a transitive verb, because the feeling (*love*) passes from the subject *girl* to the object *mother*.

In the sentence "Mary sleeps soundly," *sleeps* is an intransitive verb, because it tells that Mary is in the *state or condition* of being asleep. In the sentence "Dogs run," and "I rejoice," the verbs *run* and *rejoice* are intransitive, because the action (running) and the feeling (joy) are not directed towards objects, but are confined to the subjects *dogs* and *I*.

5. The object, like the subject, being the *name* of something, will be a noun, a pronoun, or some word doing naming work. To find the **object** of a **transitive** verb, ask yourself who is the person, or which is the thing that *receives the action expressed by the verb*. The noun or pronoun standing for that person or thing is the object.

The child broke his toy. The woman ate the pie.