

Intransitive verbs

Intransitive verbs do not require an Object; in fact, adding an Object to an intransitive verb in a sentence will render the sentence **ungrammatical**.

Sample intransitive verbs and sentences are shown below. Ungrammatical sentences are indicated by the **asterisk (*)** sign.

		Sentence structure	
		[Subj] + [V]	[Subj] + [V] + [DO] (direct object)
Intransitive verb	arrive	[Greg] [is arriving].	*[Greg] [is arriving] [the airport].
	die	[The seal] [died].	*[The seal] [died] [the shark].
	flow	[The river] [flows].	*[The river] [flows] [the mountain].
	boil	[The water] [boils].	*[The water] [boils] [the vegetables].
	go	[Jianrong] [went].	*[Jianrong] [went] [the food].
	shine	[The sun] [is shining].	*[The sun] [is shining] [the sky].
	swim	[Jane] [swims].	*[Jane] [swims] [the pool].

It is important to note that there are many **transitive** verbs that can function as **intransitive** verbs. In their intransitive form, these verbs do not require an object. Several of these verbs are listed below:

		Sentence structure	
		[Subj] + [V]	[Subj] + [V] + [DO] (direct object)
Verb	eat	[The children] [ate].	[The children] [ate] [their lunch].
	break	[The plate] [broke].	[Karen] [broke] [the plate].
	leave	[The plane] [has left].	[The plane] [has left] [the tardy passengers].
	open	[The window] [opened].	[Iqbal] [opened] [the window].
	paint	[Leonardo] [is painting].	[Leonardo] [is painting] [the wall].
	sing	[Ella] [sings].	[Ella] [sings] [the national anthem].
	sink	[The ship] [sank].	[The torpedo] [sank] [the ship].
	stop	[The car] [stopped].	[The police] [stopped] [the car].