

Action Verbs

What Are They?

An action verb is a verb that expresses physical or mental action. The action verb tells us what the subject of our clause or sentence is doing-physically or mentally.

When Are They Used?

Action verbs are used when explaining what someone or something is doing. They are used to state the action that is being done by the subject.

Some Rules for Action Verbs

The action verbs in the examples that follow will be indicated by appearing in **bolded** text:

1. She **shops** at the local market.

Most action verbs require an -s at the end of the verb when used with third-person, singular subjects.

2. I **think** about the consequences of my actions thoroughly before acting.

The conjugation (form of the verb) for first-person and second person is the infinitive (to + verb) minus the “to.”

3. Did they **play** volleyball at the beach this weekend?

Interrogative sentences, or sentences that convey a question, begin with “do,” “does,” or “did.”

4. Josh did not **remember** his phone number, and he didn't **remember** his mother's either.

Negative sentences need “do not,” “did not,” “does not” before the action verb.