

TRANSITIVE AND INTRANSITIVE VERBS

TRANSITIVE verbs are followed by a noun or noun phrase as a direct OBJECT, and are shown with a [T]; INTRANSITIVE verbs don't have a direct OBJECT, and are shown with an [I]:

kick v[T] to hit with the foot: *She kicked the ball.*

pause v[I] to stop for a short time before before continuing: *She paused to light a cigarette, then continued reading.*

But many verbs can be both [T] and [I]. For example, **smell** can be [T], as in:

*He stopped to **smell** the flower.*

smell v 1 [I] to have or use the sense of the nose: *The flower smelled nice.* 2 [T] to notice, examine, or recognize by this sense: *He stopped to smell the flower.*

Or it can be [I], as in:

*The flower **smelled** nice.*

ar-rive [I] 1 to reach a place, esp. at the end of a journey: *We arrived safely.*

ar-rest [T] 1 to seize in the name of the law and usu. put in prison: *The policeman arrested the thief.*

These letters tell you if the word is followed by a direct object. [I] means that you cannot use this verb with an object, [T] means you must use this verb with an object-see page 30a

Longman Dictionary of American English: A dictionary for learners of English, 1st Edition, 1983, p.10a.

1. TARGET FEATURE = Transitive vs Intransitive
2. IDENTIFY – Error-laden clauses
 - a. After the thief robbed
 - b. he ran himself away quickly
 - c. an old man tripped with his stick
3. LOOK UP
 1. Lexical entries
 - a. v - bb [I;T of] to take the property of (a person or organization) unlawfully
 - b. v - adv [I from] to escape by running
 - c. v - pp - [I;T over, up] (to cause) catch one's foot and lose one's balance