VERBS: TRANSITIVE and INTRANSITIVE

TRANSITIVE verbs require a direct object to complete the meaning of the sentence.

- Example: TO LAY -- The verb is lay. The object is the book.
  I lay the book down on the table each day.
  I laid the book down on the table yesterday.
  I have laid the book down on the table every time I've come in the door.

- Example: TO RAISE -- The verb is raise. The object is the blinds.
  I always raise the blinds as soon as I get there.
  I raised the blinds at 8:00 yesterday.
  I have raised the blinds at 8:00 every morning this week.

- Example: TO SET -- The verb is set. The object is the vase.
  I always set that vase down very carefully.
  I set it down very carefully last time.
  You must not have set it down carefully enough.

INTRANSITIVE verbs do not require a direct object to complete the meaning of the sentence.

- Example: TO LIE
  Each day at 3:00 I lie down to take a nap.
  Yesterday, however, I lay down at 3:00.
  I would have lain down earlier if I had gotten home earlier.

- Example: TO RISE
  The sun rises later in the winter.
  The sun rose at 4:47 yesterday.
  The sun has risen later each day since the summer solstice.
  She rises from her chair with grace.
  She rose from her chair.

- Example: TO SIT
  I sit in the same seat each day.
  I sat here last term, too.
  I would have sat here before if someone had not gotten my seat.

SOME VERBS may be transitive or intransitive, depending on the sentence.

- Example: TRANSITIVE
  I studied the book.

- Example: INTRANSITIVE
  I studied all night.