

Some wasps lay their eggs on other insects.

Caterpillars **change** in their cocoons.

Which boldfaced verb says an action the subject did by itself? _____

Which boldfaced verb tells about an action the subject did to something else?

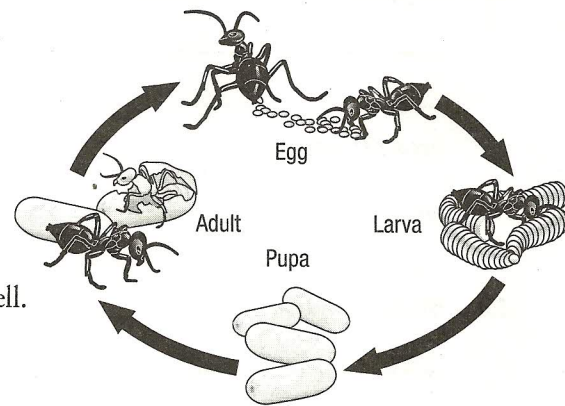
A **transitive verb** is an action verb that transfers its action to a direct object. (*Wasps lay eggs.*) An **intransitive verb** does not have a direct object. An intransitive verb shows action that the subject does alone. (*Caterpillars change.*) Many verbs can be either transitive or intransitive, depending on whether there is a direct object.

See Handbook Section 18b

Part 1

Underline each transitive verb and draw a box around its direct object. Circle each intransitive verb.

1. Most insects grow in stages.
2. They begin their lives as eggs.
3. The number of eggs and their size, shape, and color vary from insect to insect.
4. Soon a juvenile insect, or larva, hatches.
5. Most larvae scarcely resemble the adults of their species.
6. Many live in very different habitats.
7. Mosquito larvae swim in the water.
8. Cicada nymphs devour roots underground for as long as seventeen years.
9. Some wasp larvae live inside the bodies of other insects.
10. Ants feed their colonies' larvae with great care.
11. Some beetle larvae imitate ant larvae for a free meal.
12. Larvae eat constantly for maximum growth.
13. Some enter a pupal stage before adulthood.
14. Some of a pupa's tissues dissolve inside its cocoon or shell.
15. The insect emerges from its cocoon as an adult.
16. In time, the female adult lays many eggs.
17. For many insects the entire cycle lasts only a few days.
18. A few insects have a seventeen-year life cycle.



Life Cycle of an Ant