



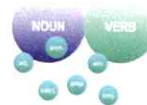
Irregular verb errors: Below are some irregular verbs that often cause errors. We will not list the present participle because that is regular; you simply add an *-ing*. The problems arise in the **past** and **past participle**. We also will omit the *to* from the infinitive because it is implied. Let us look at three groups of irregular verbs with past participle example sentences.

For some irregular verbs, the **three forms are the same**:

bet	bet	bet	I have bet on the outcome.
burst	burst	burst	Balloons had burst in the heat.
cast	cast	cast	They will have cast their fishing lines.
cost	cost	cost	It had cost too much money.
fit	fit	fit	They had fit too tightly.
hit	hit	hit	I have hit a pothole in the road.
put	put	put	We had put limits on the time.
quit	quit	quit	I have quit arguing the point.
rid	rid	rid	He had rid his desk of paperwork.
set	set	set	I had set the display up.
shut	shut	shut	She has shut the drawer.

For some irregular verbs, the **past and the past participle are the same**:

bring	brought	brought	Romeo has brought his dagger.
build	built	built	Juliet had built the scheme.
buy	bought	bought	Romeo has bought a potion.
catch	caught	caught	Juliet will have caught a butterfly.
cling	clung	clung	Romeo has clung to a rumor.
dig	dug	dug	Juliet had dug deeply into the story.
fling	flung	flung	Romeo will have flung the flask.
lay (to place)	laid	laid	Juliet had laid the letter down.
lose	lost	lost	Romeo has lost his way back.
sneak	snuck	snuck	Juliet had snuck out of her room.
sit	sat	sat	Romeo has sat outside her window.



For some irregular verbs, the **past participle is different from the past:**

begin	began	begun	Caesar had begun to plan.
bite	bit	bitten	Famine has bitten the legion.
break	broke	broken	Marius had broken his oath.
do	did	done	Brutus will have done the deed.
drink	drank	drunk	Ovid had drunk the wine.
eat	ate	eaten	Pompey has eaten the grapes.
fly	flew	flown	Antony had flown into a rage.
grow	grew	grown	Cato had grown in importance.
know	knew	known	Octavius had known the truth.
lie (recline)	lay	lain	Agrippa had lain the trap.
see	saw	seen	Calpurnia has seen the omens.
show	showed	shown	Cicero had shown his intentions.
wear	wore	worn	Sulla will have worn the toga.

Transitive verb (v.t.): A **transitive** verb is an action verb that acts on a direct object: *The arrow **hit** the centurion.* We will see many examples of transitive verbs when we study the parts of sentence. *Trans* means across; a verb is called *transitive* if it *transfers* the energy from the subject to something the subject is acting on: *Poets **write** poems.* The transit of energy from the poet to the poem is what makes the action verb transitive. **Notice that linking verbs are neither transitive nor intransitive; this does not apply to them.**

Intransitive verb (v.i.): An **intransitive** verb is an action verb that does not act on a direct object: *Arrows **flew**.* Sometimes the subject just acts: *Calpurnia **slept**.*

Most action verbs can be transitive or intransitive, but a few can be only one or the other. **Verbs that are always transitive** are *enjoy, find, excuse, reward, feed, and sell.* For example, if we use the verb *to enjoy*, it must be followed by an object or else we have an incomplete sentence: *I always enjoy....* **Verbs that are always intransitive** are *disappear, belong, laugh, wonder, giggle, arise, feast, and go.* For example, we cannot disappear someone, or belong something, or laugh someone. You cannot arise something.