Action verbs are words that describe the action in the sentence. Avoid dull, general verbs by using exact, vivid action verbs that create a picture in the reader’s mind.

Examples:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Dull/General Verbs** | **Use Exact Vivid Action Verbs** |
| ate | devoured, gobbled, nibbled |
| got | bought, found, obtained |
| made | baked, built, constructed |
| ran | jogged, raced, sprinted |
| saw | glanced, stared, watched |
| went | biked, drove, skated |

Examples of replacing Dull Verbs with Exact Vivid Action Words

Manny **went** to the football game*.* ***Went*** *is dull and general.*

Manny **drove** to the football game***. Drove*** *is specific.*

The football player **ran** toward the goal. ***Ran*** *is dull.*

The football player **sprinted** toward the goal. ***Sprinted*** *is livelier.*

The football player **made** a goal. **Made** is dull and general.

The football player **flipped** on his back and **kicked** the ball into the goal. ***Flipped*** *and* ***kicked*** *are livelier and more exact.*

**Now you try.**

**Write an exact vivid action very to replace the word beside the line. Use an Exact Vivid Verb.**

1. Abraham \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a chocolate chip cake. (made)
2. Jane \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the supermarket to buy her shopping. (went).
3. Jason \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a gold medal for winning the race. (got)
4. The toddler grabbed the plastic rattle and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it. (threw)
5. Mrs Martell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the student and smiled. (looked)
6. The thief \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the woman’s purse and sprinted away. (took)
7. The eagle \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ above the snowy mountains. (flew)
8. Mariel quickly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the chocolate cake. (ate)
9. Julio \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the cold apple juice. (drank)
10. Adam \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his homework. (did)

Write it.

Write 2 sentences using an exact action verb.

1.

2.