

## 1000 Verbs to Write By by Deanna Carlyle

All the writing advice in the world can't replace good tools and lots of practice. This is why I've compiled the following list of over a thousand action verbs. I needed a handy, printable reference tool that didn't strain my eyes or my wrists. Try it for yourself sometime. It works.

<p><b><i>For “walked” or “ran”</i></b></p> <p>lumbered plodded scurried sidled slink/slunk proceeded wended scuttled went on his way shuffled scuffed scuffled stumbled shambled waddled wobbled scooted slouched scrambled scampered minced trotted strolled sauntered ambled marched stepped paced roamed roved meandered shadowed pursued trekked continued on drifted past/along strayed glided along strode stalked stomped strutted swished swaggered stamped tramped</p>	<p>trudged traipsed trod/treaded/trodden limped hobbled lurched stagged tripped crawled crossed traversed inched across hurtled galloped charged darted advanced approached bushwhacked chased climbed crept along, crept away sneaked/snuck tiptoed stepped lightly pussyfooted dashed danced pranced descended ascended dodged edged eluded emerged entered evacuated escaped evaded fled flitted flew hauled off groped his way launched across scaled lunged</p>	<p>moved paraded passed patrolled plowed prowled propelled pursued raced sailed rushed sidestepped skidded skipped stole stomped steered swerved veered listed trampled ushered waded wandered hiked withdrew ambulated perambulated absconded trailed after bolted tore tore along made rapid strides covered ground sprinted careered scudded hastened raced hurried jogged cantered loped tripped took flight decamped drifted</p>	<p><b><i>For “reacted”</i></b></p> <p>reeled back rocked back flushed blanched blushed scowled nodded her consent nodded his agreement smiled grinned grimaced fell silent shrugged and said admitted with a nod shook his head beamed smirked simpered listed tilted swayed keeled over flinched shivered sniffed blinked retracted sighed exhaled inhaled flicked flung reclined shifted relaxed swallowed pouted looked + adj. yielded hesitated made no attempt to frowned made no answer fell silent paused stared gasped</p>	<p>started startled slackened reclined drew back stepped back stiffened resisted retreated raised an eyebrow cocked her head to one side put her head to one side tilted her head chuckled yawned laughed snickered giggled stifled a yawn stifled a laugh took a deep breath glanced off glared shrugged devoid of emotion grinned sneered</p> <p><b><i>For “jumped”</i></b></p> <p>vaulted leapt/leaped pounced startled flinched sprang lunged launched jerked jolted erupted exploded shot from</p>
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***For “said”***

uttered  
mumbled  
drawled  
parroted  
echoed  
said half-aloud  
snarled  
blurted  
moaned  
muttered  
murmured  
cooed  
whispered  
crooned  
hollered  
shrilled  
sassed  
prompted  
questioned  
demanded  
queried  
replied  
suggested  
responded  
sang out  
scoffed  
screamed  
yelled  
yelped  
shouted  
inquired  
chirped  
squealed  
squeaked  
asked herself  
asked  
assured  
commanded  
cried out  
exclaimed  
advised  
announced  
growled  
stuttered  
stammered  
instructed  
told  
jeered  
scolded  
lamented  
mocked  
objected  
questioned  
roared

speculated  
snapped  
spat  
stated  
whined  
jabbered  
prated  
prattled  
gibbered  
cackled  
gabbled  
sputtered  
blathered  
rambled on  
rattled on  
maundered  
digressed  
sermonized  
preached  
came out with  
declaimed  
pontificated  
harangued  
ranted  
rhapsodized  
gushed  
spouted  
let slip  
enlightened him  
pointed out  
chatted  
revealed  
boasted  
crowed  
vaunted  
bragged  
disparaged  
belittled  
notified  
addressed  
blabbed  
nattered  
bantered  
yakked  
whispered  
wondered aloud  
rejoined  
retorted  
replied  
recited  
repeated  
remarked  
came out with  
conveyed  
declared

summoned  
imparted  
mentioned  
added  
whined  
put before  
revealed  
let out  
divulged  
disclosed  
made known  
vented  
aired  
breathed  
betrayed  
recited  
predicted  
advanced  
averred  
avowed  
avouched  
assumed  
imagined  
professed  
claimed  
purported  
insinuated  
cited  
named  
offered  
proposed  
pleaded  
imputed  
implied  
asserted  
expressed  
pledged  
ascribed  
affirmed  
professed  
admitted

***For “took”***

drew  
withdrew  
pulled out a  
picked  
selected  
chose  
plucked  
removed  
snatched out  
scooped up  
rooted out  
snatched  
trapped  
took up  
raised  
picked up  
hoisted  
set upright  
elevated  
seized  
prized open  
wrenched  
wrested  
produced  
extracted  
extricated  
accepted  
fetched  
grabbed  
snitched  
took hold of  
jimmied  
gathered  
grasped  
gripped  
fingered  
nabbed  
packed  
ransacked  
appropriated  
swiped  
snared  
dragged  
acquired  
obtained  
gained  
procured  
garnered  
gleaned  
pilfered  
lowered  
took down  
tore down  
swapped

***For “put”***

stashed  
placed  
posed  
posited  
plunked down  
mounted  
positioned  
stationed  
set before  
dropped  
crammed  
stuffed  
stuck  
lodged  
plopped  
plunked  
parked  
stationed  
planted  
perched  
inserted  
lay  
set  
set upright  
stood on end  
upended  
deposited  
consigned  
relegated  
strapped  
tossed  
threw  
flung  
lobbed  
hurled  
heaved  
cast  
slapped onto  
draped  
dunked  
eased  
shifted  
interposed  
installed

***For “looked, saw”***

glared  
glanced off  
regarded  
made out  
descried  
remarked  
had in sight  
glowered  
squinted  
shot him a look  
fixed her with a stare  
sighted  
ogled  
cast a glance  
his eyes begged her to  
amplify  
gazed  
gaped  
spotted  
surveyed  
turned an eye on  
looked upon  
distinguished  
fixed her gaze on  
noted  
recognized  
identified  
took a look  
took a glance  
stared  
leered  
scowled  
scanned  
peered  
squinted  
gaped  
noticed  
observed  
considered  
watched  
viewed  
took in  
studied  
examined  
inspected  
scrutinized  
perused  
sized up  
took stock of  
skimmed  
glanced through  
flipped through  
perceived  
discerned

beheld  
watched for  
looked on  
eyed  
detected  
contemplated  
kept in sight  
held in view  
stood guard  
kept watch  
monitored

***For “pulled”***

pulled out  
removed  
took out  
extracted  
produced  
tugged  
extricated  
lugged  
drew  
dragged  
yanked

***For “pushed”***

propelled  
ballasted  
set in motion  
drove  
trundled  
shoved  
thrust  
pressed forward  
made one’s way  
squeezed through  
roused  
prompted  
forged ahead

***For “thought, remembered”***

wondered  
asked herself  
pondered  
noticed  
reflected  
struck her as  
entertained the notion  
held in one’s mind  
It occurred to her  
It came to her  
realized  
knew  
she considered.  
she considered this.  
he was tempted to  
brought to mind  
he was taken with the  
idea that  
she reasoned  
understood  
considered  
went over  
reviewed  
pictured  
featured  
imagined  
pretended  
hoped  
feared  
envisioned  
deliberated  
envisaged  
called up  
conjured up  
conceived of  
fancied  
allowed the conceit  
judged  
suspected  
intended  
expected  
planned  
concentrated  
mused  
ruminated  
recalled  
muller over  
brooded over  
projected  
anticipated  
concluded  
esteemed  
took heed

kept in mind  
guessed  
supposed  
formed an image of  
conjured  
hatched  
fabricated  
fashioned  
formulated  
concocted  
reasoned that  
turned it over in her  
mind  
flirted with the idea  
recollected  
bore in mind  
deduced  
inferred  
thought back to  
put her in mind of  
called to mind  
reminded her of  
acknowledged  
weighed  
reconsidered  
thought better of

***For “felt, seemed, showed, looked like”***

sensed  
had the impression  
understood  
detected  
seemed  
appeared  
betrayed  
indicated  
betokened  
foretokened  
revealed  
bespoke  
suggested  
signified  
connoted  
hinted at  
alluded to  
implied  
intimated  
presaged  
portended  
forewarned  
disclosed  
displayed  
lay open  
made manifest  
exposed  
bared  
struck her as  
looked as if  
looked like  
had the look of  
had every appearance  
of  
had the earmarks of  
resembled  
sounded like  
exhibited  
evidenced  
showed  
manifested  
emblematic