

1000 Verbs to Write By

For "entered"

stepped inside	burst in	intruded
went in	set foot in/on	penetrated
came in	broke in	passed into
sailed in	forced her way in	

For "felt, seemed, showed, looked like"

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

For "had, held"

bore	contained	contained
exhibited	wore	toted
showed	sported	possessed
displayed	spanned	retained
betrayed	suspended	embraced
wielded	grasped	evinced
carried	gripped	
was furnished with	clutched	

For "heard"

overheard	listened in	took in
caught	gathered	gave audience to
detected	heard tell of	gave an ear to
picked up	strained her ears	lent an ear to
perceived	harked	heard him out
apprehended	harkened	within earshot
eavesdropped	attended to	out of earshot
listened	took heed of	

For "hit"

beat	punched	impacted
socked	rammed	attacked
bumped	crashed	hacked
clapped	thwacked	swiped
thumped	slapped	swung
lashed	smacked	trounced
pummeled	pumped	tackled

For "jumped"

vaulted
leapt/leaped
pounced
startled
flinched

sprang
lunged
launched
jerked
jolted

erupted
exploded
shot from

For "left, exited"

ran off
walked off
went out
departed
retreated

decamped
deserted
repaired
retired
withdrew

quit
took off
fled
sallied forth
bowed her way out

For "lie down, lay"

reclined
eased onto
flopped onto
lay prone
lollled
luxuriated

lay prostrate
lay recumbent
lay back
rested
reposed
lazed

sprawled
lounded
slouched
slumped

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 / drew
took out / dragged yanked

extracted
produced
tugged

extricated / lugged

For "pushed"

propelled
ballasted
set in motion
drove
trundled

shoved
thrust
pressed forward
made one's way
squeezed through

roused
prompted
forged ahead

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 "reacted"

reeled back
rocked back
flushed
blanched
blushed
scowled
nodded her consent
nodded his agreement
smiled
grinned
grimaced
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
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

For "smelled"

got scent of
sensed
sniffed
detected
snuffled
snorted

inhaled
scented
snuffed
breathed in
savored
perceived

discerned
reeked
stunk
assaulted the nostrils

For "stood"

got to his feet
jumped up
rose

rose to his feet
got up
remained upright

held herself erect
stationed herself

For "tasted, drank"

savored
relished
nibbled at
tried
sipped
gulped
took a deep swallow
chewed
ingested
ruminated
sampled
sank his teeth into
bit into
crunched

melted
licked
slurped
chugged
smacked
suckled
sucked
swigged
swilled
chomped
ground
munched
gnawed
rended

quaffed
imbibed
tipped
nipped
supped
drained
washed down
swilled down
guzzled down
lapped up
soused
quenched

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
mullied 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 "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
snatched
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 "touched"

clutched
pawed
gripped
grasped
took hold of
adjusted
felt
manipulated
maneuvered
twiddled
palpated
palmed
handled
thumbed
rummaged through
caressed
fondled
stroked
grazed
rubbed
tugged
squeezed
scratched
pinched

patted
tapped
tamped
rapped
brushed
bedaubed
dappled
dabbed
swept across
scraped
glanced
alighted
pressed
wrung
kneaded
shoved
gouged
grazed
prodded
ticked
trapped
jabbed
poked
pressed

probed
goaded
twisted
wedged
pried
prized open
pry/pried
pulled
pushed
primped
preened
rattled
pumped
mangled
massaged
felt
flattened
smoothed
scooped up
flicked
flipped
flogged
fondled
groped

handled
held
knifed
mauled

tapped
drummed
wiggled
worked

stubbed
scoured
scrubbed

For "turned"

wheeled around
twisted to one side
whirled about
rotated
spun on her heels
pivoted
revolved

swiveled
reeled
trundled
circled
eddiel
swirled
sheered

veered
shifted
divagated
angled off
shunted

For "was, were"

stood
sat
took up
perched
lay
hung

took place
contained
spanned
loomed
occupied
remained

stayed
persisted
befell (happened)
bechanced
occurred
happened

For "walked" or "ran"

paced
shuffled
scuffed
lumbered
plodded
sidled
slinked/slunk
proceeded
wended
went on his way
shuffled
scuffed
scuffled
stumbled
shambled
waddled
wobbled
slouched
minced
strolled
sauntered
ambled
marched
stepped
roamed
roved
meandered
shadowed
pursued

continued on
drifted past/along
strayed
glided along
tramped
trudged
traipsed
trod/treaded/trodden
limped
hobbled
lurched
crawled
crossed
traversed
inched across
emerged
entered
evacuated
advanced
approached
bushwhacked
climbed
crept along, crept away
sneaked/snuck
tiptoed
stepped lightly
pussyfooted
descended
ascended

dodged
edged
eluded
escaped
evaded
fled
dashed
chased
hurtled
swished
swaggered
trotted
scrambled
scampered
scooted
scuttled
scurried
trekked
strode
stalked
stomped
strutted
stamped
staggered
tripped
galloped
charged
darted
danced

pranced
flitted
flew
hauled off
groped his way
launched across
scaled
lunged
moved
paraded
passed
patrolled
plowed
prowled
propelled
pursued
raced
sailed

rushed
sidestepped
skidded
skipped
stole
steered
swerved
veered
listed
trampled
ushered
waded
wandered
hiked
withdrew
ambulated
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