

Some active verbs do something to another person or thing, some do not; if I say you write, there must be something to which the action of writing passes, perhaps a letter, you write a letter or you write a copy; this is called a *transitive verb*. If I say you walk, the action of walking stays with yourself, you do not walk a walk. This is called an *intransitive verb*.

A verb is expressed in several different ways, called its modes or moods. There are four of these moods. The infinitive, the indicative, the subjunctive, the imperative.

The *infinitive* mood simply expresses the verb without reference to person. *To write, to have written.*

The *indicative* declares something without any doubt or hesitation; I write, I wrote, I shall write.

The *subjunctive* always expresses the verb under a doubt; I should walk (if I had the power); I could walk (if I had the will); or if I walk (unless anything prevents me),—all expressing a doubt on the subject.

The *imperative* entreats or commands—as, “walk,” let him walk.

All these modes or moods have times or tenses; the present, past, and future, in which the verb takes place.

Present Tense—I walk. Past Tense—I walked. Future Tense—I shall walk.

PARTICIPLES

Are so called because they are sometimes used as part of a verb, sometimes as an adjective, partaking the nature of both.