

Intermediate 2
Unit 7 Grammar Part B
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Sensory Verbs

Sensory verbs are related to our senses.

Examples:

see, notice, observe, watch, hear, listen to, smell, ...

We can use sensory verbs in two ways:

1) Subject + Sensory Verb + Object + the Simple Form of the Verb

When the simple form of the verb follows a sensory verb, it means the whole action has been perceived from the beginning until the very end.

Examples:

I saw an old man cross the street.

➤ I saw the complete action from the beginning to the end.

I heard my neighbor sing a song in his bathroom.

➤ I heard the whole song from the beginning to the end.

We saw a teenager smoke a cigarette behind a tree in the park.

➤ We saw his smoking from the beginning until the end.

2) Subject + Sensory Verb + Object + Verb+ing

When the -ing form of a verb follows a sensory verb, only part of the action has been perceived.

Examples:

I saw an old man crossing the street.

➤ I saw part of the action.

I heard my neighbor singing a song in his bathroom.

➤ I heard part of the song.

We **saw** a teenager **smoking** a cigarette behind a tree in the park.

➤ We saw part of his smoking.

More Examples:

I see the sun setting behind the mountains, casting a warm orange glow.

She hears the distant sound of waves crashing against the shore.

She heard the birds sing in the morning.

They noticed the sky turn dark.

He smelled the flowers blooming in the garden.

She tasted the soup boiling on the stove.

Source:

[Intermediate 2 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)