CHOOSING PRECISE VERBS

Verbs are one of the most important parts of speech. These words help readers see and understand the action. The more specific and vivid your verbs are, the more powerful your writing will be. Here are two sentences that basically say the same thing. Which sentence do you think is better? Why?

- Steven walked out of the house, called to his dog, and went to the park.

- Steven dashed out of the house, whistled to his dog, and scurried to the park.

The second sentence provide more information. The specific verbs also help the reader to understand how Steven feels. As you write, don't settle for the first verb that pops into your mind. Consider other verbs that more accurately and vividly show the reader what is happening.

Your Turn!

List as many synonyms for the generic verb as you can think of.

Talk: _____
example: shout

_____

_____

Walk: _____
example: dash

_____

_____

Eat: _____
example: gobble

_____

_____