Levin Verb Class 9.7: *Spray/Load* Verbs
and Class 9.8: *Fill* Verbs

09.7 *Spray/Load* Verbs (Levin 1993:117-119)

brush cram crowd cultivate dab daub drape drizzle dust hang heap inject jam load mound pack pile plant plaster prick pump rub scatter seed settle sew shower slather smear smudge sow spatter splash splatter spray spread sprinkle spritz squirt stack stick stock strew string stuff swab vest wash wrap

Jessica **sprayed** paint on the table.
Jessica **sprayed** (*on) the table with paint.　　　(*Spray/Load* Alternation: 2.3.1)
Paint **sprayed** on the wall.　　　　　　　　　(Causative Alternation: 1.1.2.1)
*The wall **sprayed** with paint.
Jessica **squirted/splashed/sprayed** water at me.　　(Conative Alternation: 1.3)
a **spray** of paint　　　　　　　　　　　　　　(Zero-related Nominal)
*a **spray** of the wall

Jessica **loaded** boxes on the wagon.
Jessica **loaded** (*on) the wagon with boxes.
*Boxes **loaded** on the wagon.
*The wagon **loaded** with boxes.
*Jessica **loaded/stuffed/crammed** boxes at the truck.
a **load** of boxes
*a **load** of the truck

09.8 *Fill* Verbs (Levin 1993:119-120)

adorn anoint bandage bathe bestrew bind blanket block blot bombard carpet choke cloak clog clutter coat contaminate cover dam dapple deck decorate deluge dirty dot douse drench edge embellish emblazon encircle encrust endow enrich entangle face festoon fill fleck flood frame garland garnish imbue impregnate infect inlay interlace interlard interleave intersperse interweave inundate lard lash line litter mask mottle ornament pad pave plate plug pollute replenish repopulate riddle ring ripple robe saturate season shroud smother soak soil speckle splotch spot staff stain stipple stop up stud suffuse surround swaddle swathe taint tile trim veil vein wreathe

Leslie **staffed** the store with employees.
*Leslie **staffed** employees in(to) the store.
The employees **staffed** the store.
*The store **staffed** with employees.
*Leslie **staffed** the store in employees.

Leslie **filled** the bottle with water.
*Leslie **filled** water in(to) the bottle.
The water **filled** the bottle.
The bottle **filled** with water.
*Leslie **filled** the bottle in water.

Leslie **soaked** the blanket with water.
Leslie **soaked** the blanket in water.

Levin, Beth. 1993. *English Verb Classes and Alternations: A Preliminary Survey*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.