Levin Alternation Category 06.1: There-Insertion

accumulate add amble appear arise arrive ascend assemble await awake awaken beat begin belch blaze boom break bubble build burst cascade chatter chime climb cling coexist come confront crawl create creep cross crouch cut dance dangle dart dawn decay depend derive descend develop die disappear discern discover display doze drift drop dwell echo elapse emanate emerge enact engrave ensue enter evolve exist exeunt fester find flap flare flash flee flicker float flow flutter fly follow gallop gleam glimmer glisten glitter go grow gush hang happen head hear hobble hook hop hurtle idle imprint inscribe issue jump kneel labor lay lean leap lie live loom lounge lurk march materialize meander mount occur open overspread paint pass perch persist pile pin place plod plop plunge prance predominate preside prevail project protrude puff radiate reach reign remain reside resound rest reverberate revolve ride ring rise roam roll rumble run rush sail scatter scintillate scrawl see seize settle shelter shimmer shine show shriek shuffle sing sit skip sleep slouch smolder sound sparkle speed spill sprawl spread squat stack stagger stamp stand staple steal stem step straddle strap stray stream stretch stride stroll strut supervene surge survive suspend sweep swim swing take tattoo tick toil tower trot trudge tumble turn twinkle twist understand vanish wait walk wander want weave wind work write writhe

Above is the list of verbs referred to in Section 6.1 (on the There-Insertion alternation) in Levin 1993, taken from the Verb Index given in that work. Verbs can be referred to in a section about a given alternation either by being subcategorized to undergo the alternation (the usual case), or by being subcategorized to not undergo the alternation.

Read section 6.1 in Levin and become familiar with the tests given there. Then divide the verbs in the list above into two sublists:

1. verbs that do undergo There-Insertion
2. verbs that don’t undergo There-Insertion.

For each verb in group 2 (but not group 1), provide evidence of its membership in the form of a starred example sentence.

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NB: The entire verb list from which this selection is taken is available on the Web at http://www.umich.edu/~jlawler/levin.verbs.