

# ‘Verbing’

Below are two lists of infinitive verb phrases. In each class, the verb is formed from a noun; as Calvin once said, *Verbing weirds language*. But verbs differ in what they mean, and occasionally in which class they belong to.

What is the basic difference between Class I and Class II?

## Class I

*to seed the lawn*  
*to top a building*  
*to water horses*  
*to oil machinery*  
*to wire the house*  
*to carpet a room*  
*to cap the bottle*  
*to fence property*  
*to wax the floor*  
*to roof a house*  
... etc.

## Class II

*to seed a pepper*  
*to top the tree*  
*to milk a cow*  
*to worm the dog*  
*to peel an orange*  
*to core apples*  
*to skin a cat*  
*to scalp the man*  
*to husk corn*  
*to sample wine*  
... etc.

Find five more examples of each class,  
and explain why each one is an example of its class.