

The Verbs Lie, Lie and Lay

■ Decide which of the two sentences is correct.

- Q1.** a) Lie the scissors down, or somebody's going to get hurt.
b) Lay the scissors down, or somebody's going to get hurt.
- Q2.** a) John lied about where he was going that night, and his mother found out.
b) John laid about where he was going that night, and his mother found out.
- Q3.** a) Can you lay the table, please?
b) Can you lie the table, please?
- Q4.** a) They laid on the beach with a parasol, trying to avoid getting burnt.
b) They lay on the beach with a parasol, trying to avoid getting burnt.
- Q5.** a) She's lied to me over and over again, so I can't trust her.
b) She's lain to me over and over again, so I can't trust her.
- Q6.** a) The man commanded the sheepdog to lay down.
b) The man commanded the sheepdog to lie down.
- Q7.** a) The police told the criminal to lay the gun down on the floor and back off slowly.
b) The police told the criminal to lie the gun down on the floor and back off slowly.
- Q8.** a) As I was feeling terrible, I lay in bed for a couple of hours.
b) As I was feeling terrible, I laid in bed for a couple of hours.

ANSWERS

■ Decide which of the two sentences is correct.

Q1. ~~a) Lie the scissors down, or somebody's going to get hurt.~~

b) Lay the scissors down, or somebody's going to get hurt.

Q2. a) John lied about where he was going that night, and his mother found out.

~~b) John laid about where he was going that night, and his mother found out.~~

Q3. a) Can you lay the table, please?

~~b) Can you lie the table, please?~~

Q4. a) They laid on the beach with a parasol, trying to avoid getting burnt.

b) They lay on the beach with a parasol, trying to avoid getting burnt.

Q5. a) She's lied to me over and over again, so I can't trust her.

~~b) She's lain to me over and over again, so I can't trust her.~~

Q6. a) The man commanded the sheepdog to lay down.

b) The man commanded the sheepdog to lie down.

Q7. a) The police told the criminal to lay the gun down on the floor and back off slowly.

~~b) The police told the criminal to lie the gun down on the floor and back off slowly.~~

Q8. a) As I was feeling terrible, I lay in bed for a couple of hours.

~~b) As I was feeling terrible, I laid in bed for a couple of hours.~~