

Make, give (delexical verbs 2) ★★☆☆

*Have, take, make and give are sometimes used as DELEXICAL VERBS**

1 Make...



He made an offer they couldn't refuse...

More examples:

make a decision, make a request, make a suggestion, make an effort, make an offer, make an excuse, ...

2 Give...



He gave the signal, and the race started

More examples:

give an answer, give a reply, give a sign, give a sigh (of relief), give a shout, give a start ...

In *give a reply* and *give a sign*, we can also use *make*.

*When a verb is used as delexical. it doesn't have much meaning in itself, and is used with a noun which gives the meaning.

Quick check

Complete each sentence with the right form of *make* or *give*:

- 1 I asked a question, and he _____ a good answer.
- 2 "We need _____ a decision about this; are we going to do it or not?"
- 3 As he scored the winning goal, the crowd _____ a great shout.
- 4 I was already late, so I _____ an excuse and left.
- 5 "Can I _____ a suggestion? We need to think about opening a new branch."