There are all sorts of looking that takes place over a school day. Students look up when there is a loud noise, they look out of the window, and they look for their books when it’s time to change subjects.

*Look* can be used as both a verb and noun. The most common use of to *look* is the process of using the eyes to see something. However, there are several other common uses for *to look*.

*Look* can also be used as a noun. For example, a teacher may ask to take a look at a student’s assignment.

**Follow-Ups**

- What is the difference between staring and glancing at a book?
- Would you imagine or observe a science experiment unfold?
- How is glancing at a book different than browsing a book?
- What does it mean to rubberneck or gawk?

**The Spanish Connection**

The word *look* is an Old English word lócian. The Spanish word for to *look* is *mirar*. *Look* and *mirar* are not cognates. However, some synonyms for *look* have Spanish cognates.

**Word Changes**

The different ways a person can *look* at something are also reflected in many different idioms and common phrases. A person who is complacent about something is “looking the other way.” A person who is being optimistic is “looking on the bright side.” Someone who looks great “looks a million bucks.”

Look as in

to look for a long time
• stare
• glare
• glower
• gaze
• gawk
• rubberneck
• leer
• ogle
• gape
• watch

Look as in
to see
• see
• view
• witness
• view
• spy

Look as in
to observe
• watch
• notice
• follow
• note
• observe
• peer

Look as in
to search for something
• search
• find
• seek
• hunt
• forage

Look as in
to imagine
• picture
• visualize
• envision
• imagine

Look as in
to look critically
• examine
• inspect

IDIOMS
• Look out
• Look after
• Look a gift horse in the mouth
• Look alive/sharp
• Look down (one's) nose at/on
• Look forward to
• Look in on
• Look the other way
• Look up to
• Look on the bright side
• Things are looking up
• Look what the cat dragged in!
• Look who's talking!
• Looking for a needle in a haystack
• Look like a million dollars
• If looks could kill
• Look good on paper
• Look high and low
• By the looks of it
• Look me in the eye/face
• Once over
• Eyeball it

COMMON PHRASES
• Look after
• Look around
• Look at
• Look back
• Look down
• Look for
• look forward
• Look into
• Look over
• Look through
• Look up

PROVERB
“Look before you leap.”

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• to examine / examinar
• to observe / observar
• to visualize / visualizar
• to imagine / imaginar
Look as in to look for a long time
Look as in to see
Look as in to observe
Look as in to search for something
Look as in to imagine
Look as in to look critically

COMMON PHRASES

THE SPANISH CONNECTION

IDIOMS

PROVERB
Inflected Endings
• looks\(^n\)
• looked\(^v\)
• looking\(^v\)

Derivational Suffix
• looker\(^n\)

Compound Words
Look used as a noun
• look-see
Look used as a verb
• look-alike
• looking-glass
• lookout
• overlook

Morphological Family for Look

\(^n\) Look used as a noun
\(^v\) Look used as a verb