# 10.7 - flying - the verbs *létat* (coll. - *lítat*) and *letět*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |

In this lesson we are going to learn about two more verbs, ***létat*** ‘to fly(indet.)’ and ***letět*** ‘to fly (det.)’. The verb ***létat*** (like the verb *chodit,* *jezdit*),is an **indeterminate verb of motion**. It has a colloquial variant *lítat*. The verb *letět* (like *jít, jet*)is a **determinate verb of motion**.

| **indeterminate** | **determinate** | **definition** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *chodit* | *jít* | to go (by foot) |
| *jezdit* | *jet* | to go (by vehicle) |
| ***létat (lítat)*** | ***letět*** | **to fly** |

| indeterminate (*létat*) | determinate (*letět*) |
| --- | --- |
| * habitual acts of going - use the verb *jezdit* when you are describing **frequent or habitual trips**. | * single trip - use the verb *jet* when you describing a **single trip from point A to point B**. |
| *Létám několikrát za rok.*  I fly a few times a year. | *Kam letíte?*  Where are you flying to? |
| *Hodně jsme létali, když jsem byla mladší.*  We used to fly a lot when I was younger. | *Minulý týden jsme letěli do Chorvatska na víkend.*  Last weekend we flew to Croatia for the weekend. |
| *Budu asi hodně létat kvůli práci.*  I’m probably going to fly a lot because of work. | *Za měsíc poletíme zpátky domů.*  We’ll fly back home in a month. |
| * **goal-less motion**     *Ptáci létali nad námi.*  Birds were flying above us.  *V pokoji létala moucha.*  A fly was flying around the room. |  |

Finally, létat and letět can be used colloquially to talk about hurrying and rapid movement, as in the examples here below:

| indeterminate (*létat*) | determinate (*letět*) |
| --- | --- |
| *Děti lítaly celý den po venku a v noci pak spaly jak zabité.*  The children were zooming around outside all day and at night they slept like logs (lit. like the dead). | *Promiň, ale už musím letět! Za 10 minut mi začíná hodina.*  Excuse me, but I have to hurry off! My class starts in ten minutes (lit. starts for me).  *Kam zase letíš? Vždyť ses ani nenajedl!*  Where are you rushing off to again? You haven’t even had a bite to eat! |

Images used in this document come from [these sources](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yaPhkNEfxYLcwdIwp99HcsdnLA0YtTD8Rs8Mri8AjXk/edit#heading=h.minbqq3wwala).