LEARNING ABOUT VERB TENSES
SIMPLE PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSES

This unit will help you to understand the simple present, past, and future tenses of a verb. You will be able to write sentences using the correct tense, and to identify the correct tense of a verb.

present tense: The verb shows action that happens regularly.
example: Brandon plays football with Lee.

past tense: The verb shows action that happened.
example: I wrote a story about animals.

future tense: The verb shows action that will happen.
example: Lisa will read to us.

Read each of the following sentences and write present, past or future on the line.

1. Betsy saw a black snake. ________________________
2. Gwen will go to school. ________________________
3. Mike eats ice cream. ________________________
4. Cindy will play basketball. ________________________
5. Ashley feeds her three cats. ________________________
LEARNING ABOUT VERB TENSES
SIMPLE PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSES

PRACTICE 1

Read each of the following sentences. Circle the correct tense of the underlined verb.

1. Sheryl played with her dog.
   present   past   future

2. Harry will go with Bob to the movies.
   present   past   future

3. Leslie sings in the choir.
   present   past   future

4. Anne writes stories for her friends.
   present   past   future

5. Tom sold his baseball cards.
   present   past   future
LEARNING ABOUT VERB TENSES
SIMPLE PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSES
PRACTICE 2

Choose the correct verb to match the tense in the (parentheses)

1. Marion ________ at Jacob to stop running. (past tense)
   a. yelled   b. yells   c. will yell

2. Cathy ________ cookies every week. (present tense)
   a. baked   b. bakes   c. will bake

3. Charles ________ the ball to Claudia. (future tense)
   a. threw   b. throws   c. will throw

4. Glenn ________ a picture of a dog (past tense)
   a. painted   b. paints   c. will paint

5. Mark ________ the baby to the car. (future tense)
   a. carried   b. carries   c. will carry
LEARNING ABOUT VERB TENSES
SIMPLE PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSES
PRACTICE 3

Write a sentence using an action verb in the correct tense.

1. (past tense) ___________________________________
   _______________________________________________

2. (present tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

3. (future tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

4. (past tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

5. (present tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

6. (future tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

7. (past tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________

8. (present tense) ________________________________
   __________________________ ______________________
LEARNING ABOUT VERB TENSES
SIMPLE PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSES
PRACTICE 4

Circle the present tense verbs, draw a square around the past tense verbs, and make an x under the future tense verbs.

played  carry  will sing
write  shouted  hopped
shared  rode  laugh
will paint  chopped  will try
throw  see  cried
save  washed  will grow
will bark  ran  shopped
danced  will swing  like
sneeze  looked  will play
ANSWERS TO TENSES:

PAGE 1: 1. past
2. future
3. present
4. future
5. present

PAGE 2: 1. past
2. future
3. present
4. present
5. past

PAGE 3: 1. a
2. b
3. c
4. a
5. c

PAGE 4: ANSWERS WILL VARY

PAGE 5: CIRCLE: carry write laugh throw
         see save like sneeze

         SQUARE: played shouted hopped shared
                  rode chopped cried washed
                  ran shopped danced looked

         X: will sing will paint will try will grow
            will bark will swing will play