

Grade 3 Playlist: Simple Verb Tenses

Aligns with *CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.E*:

- Form and use the simple (e.g., *I walked*; *I walk*; *I will walk*) verb tenses.

Welcome

Writers can describe events that happen at different times. They may write about things that are happening now. They may write about things that already happened. They may also write about things that will happen in the future. The tense of the verb in a sentence tells when the action is happening.

Objectives

In this playlist, students will learn how to:

- recognize simple verb tenses.
- form and use verbs in the present tense, past tense, and future tense.

Review

Key Terms

- A **verb** is a word that describes an action (e.g., *run, walk, talk, laugh*).
- A **tense** is the form of a verb that tells the time that something takes place.
 - The **past tense** describes actions that have already happened (e.g., *ran, walked, talked, laughed*).
 - The **present tense** describes actions that are happening now (e.g., *run, walk, talk, laugh*).
 - The **future tense** describes actions that will happen in the future (e.g., *will run, will walk, will talk, will laugh*).

Exploring the Standard

In the present tense and past tense, the form of the verb will let the reader know when the action is taking place. In the future tense, the word *will* must be placed before the verb to let the reader know that the action being referred to has not happened yet and will likely happen in the future.

Watch!

Watch this video to learn how to form verbs in the past, present, and future tenses.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTmgwaY9p8o>



A Closer Look: Present Tense

The present tense describes actions happening now. Verbs in the present tense must agree in number with the verb in the sentence. For example, *They walk* uses the **plural form** of the verb *to walk* because more than one person is doing the action. *He walks* uses the **singular form** of the verb because only one person is doing the action.

Present Tense Verb	Singular Form	Plural Form
give	She gives.	They give.
trade	He trades.	We trade.
push	Mark pushes.	Mark and Sara push.
run	Sara runs.	Mark and Sara run.

Verbs with the subjects *I* or *you* before them take the plural form of the verb. For example, *I give*; *I trade*; *you push*; *you run*.

Watch!

Watch this video to learn how to form and use verbs in the present tense.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxJu375b0z4>

Practice!

Practice forming the present tense by completing these sentences:

- http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises/tenses/simple_present_statements.htm

Write the correct form of each present tense verb so that it agrees with the person doing the action.

1. Nick _____ (park) his bicycle by the tree and _____ (walk) inside.
2. Three people _____ (sing) in the park for the visitors.
3. I _____ (swim) for twenty minutes each day.
4. Sam and Karen _____ (jog) around the lake right now.
5. Mrs. Lee _____ (think) her students are great.

A Closer Look: Past Tense

The past tense describes actions that have already happened. When forming the past tense, some form of *-ed* is usually added to the end of the verb. For example, *walk* becomes *walked*. *Kick* becomes *kicked*.



Teaching Notes: Simple Verb Tenses

The goal of L.3.1.E is for students to learn to recognize, form, and use verbs in the past, present, and future tenses. Students should recognize the rules for forming each tense and recognize when to use it. The following information contains ideas that teachers can incorporate into their classrooms as well as additional resources to peruse and integrate into instruction as appropriate.

Activities

1. Read aloud sentences from books or magazines. Ask students to identify the tense of each verb in each sentence. Be sure to choose only sentences that contain verbs in the simple tense. Avoid sentences in the perfect, progressive, or continuous tenses.
2. Invite students to make their own worksheets to share with a partner. Have them write a sentence with the verb missing. Then have them tell a partner which verb should be used, and have the partner figure out what tense is needed for the sentence and fill in the correct form of the verb.

Writing Prompt

Ask students to write a paragraph or a short story that uses each of the three tenses correctly. Then, have them highlight each tense in a different color to show which verbs are in the present, past, and future tenses.

Practice! Answer Key

1. parks, walks; 2. sing; 3. swim; 4. jog; 5. thinks
2. 1. enjoyed; 2. broke; 3. baked; 4. learned; 5. drank
3. 1. will wait; 2. will ride; 3. will mail; 4. will fly; 5. will grade
4. 1. will walk; 2. sits; 3. visited; 4. challenge; 5. will try; 6. bent

Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching L.3.1.E:

- <http://www.spellingcity.com/verb-tenses.html>
- <http://www.englishforeveryone.org/Topics/Verb-Tenses.htm>
- <http://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbtenseintro.html>
- <http://www.edufind.com/english-grammar/simple-present-tense/>
- <http://www.englishgrammar.org/simple-present-tense-worksheet-2/>
- <http://www.e-grammar.org/present-simple/>

