

Grammar

Worksheet 2: Using different tenses and subject–verb agreement

Key point

A verb is an action word. The tense of a verb tells us when the action happened. Verbs must agree with their subject (the person or thing doing the action). Singular subjects have a singular verb and plural subjects have a plural verb.

Get started

Guided

1. Decide whether these sentences are referring to the present, past or future. Circle the correct answer.

- a. I play football on Mondays. Present / Past / Future
 b. I played football on Monday. Present / Past / Future
 c. I will play football next Monday. Present / Past / Future

Hint

Think about: is it happening now, has it already happened, or will it happen in the future?

Guided

2. Use the correct word to fill in the spaces.

- a. Yesterday, I went shopping. go went will go
 b. Tomorrow, he _____ to the cinema. go went will go
 c. They _____ to town last night. walk walked will walk
 d. We _____ pizza on Fridays. eat ate will eat

3. Use the correct verb form to complete the sentences.

- a. The book _____ on the table. is are
 b. He usually _____ to the cinema on Fridays. go goes
 c. My bus _____ late today. was were
 d. I _____ football on Tuesdays. plays play

Hint

Subject-verb agreement is about making sure you use the correct verb form for the number of people or things doing the activity.

Try this

1. Complete the sentences. Use the verb in brackets in the correct form.

Past tense

- a. Laura _____ German well when she lived in Germany. (speak)
 b. The café _____ late yesterday because of the bad weather. (open)

Present tense

- c. Tanya _____ German very well. (speak)
 d. The café usually _____ at 7.30 a.m. every morning. (open)

Future tense

- e. Rashid _____ German well after he finishes his studies. (speak)
 f. The café _____ at 9 a.m. next Sunday. (open)

2. Tick the correct version of each sentence.

- a. I read the newspaper on Sundays. ☐
 I will read the newspaper on Sundays. ☐
 b. We rode our bikes when it is sunny. ☐
 We ride our bikes when it is sunny. ☐

- c. We will go on holiday next year. ☐
 We went on holiday next year. ☐
 d. I go to university when I am 18. ☐
 I will go to university when I am 18. ☐
 e. I went to the shops yesterday to buy bread. ☐
 I go to the shops yesterday to buy bread. ☐
 f. They visited their grandparents last weekend. ☐
 They will visit their grandparents last weekend. ☐

3. Complete the sentences using the verb in brackets in the correct form.

- a. My bike and helmet in the garage now. (be)
 b. I my grandmother to the shops every Saturday. (take)
 c. The shops open last Sunday. (be)
 d. We to France last summer. (go)

Hint

Think about when the action is happening and whether the subject is singular or plural.

Aim to pass

1. Your local library is looking for volunteers.

They are looking for people to help with the following activities:

- the playgroup for children under 5 years old
- the job seekers' club
- computer classes for people over 60 years old
- craft workshops for all ages.

Write an email to the manager, Zac Saddiq, applying to become a volunteer at the library.

In your email, you should:

- say which voluntary role you are applying for and why
- describe your skills, qualifications and experience
- explain why you think you would be good at the role.

You should aim to write about 200 to 250 words. Complete your answer on a separate piece of paper. (21 marks)

2. Write a magazine article for a technology magazine.

In your article, you should:

- tell readers about a technology product you have recently bought
- say what you like and dislike about the product
- explain why you would recommend or not recommend the product.

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words. Complete your answer on a separate piece of paper. (15 marks)

Hint

Use the same tense to write about events or actions happening at the same time.

Rate yourself

How confident are you about using tenses and understanding subject-verb agreement?



Got it!

Move on to the next activity.



Not there yet...

Try one of the booster sheets for this worksheet.