

Grammar

Worksheet 3: Using different tenses and subject–verb agreement

Key point

Different tenses tell us when an action happened. The subject and verb must agree: singular subjects have a singular verb and plural subjects have a plural verb.



Get started

Guided 1. Complete the sentences using the verb in brackets in the correct form.

- a. I lost my phone last week. (lose)
- b. Last week we a new car. (buy)
- c. I to France next Monday. (go)
- d. Sarah every Saturday. (work)
- e. Mrs Taylor us last year. (teach)
- f. Next week I to London. (drive)

Guided 2. Read the draft job advert below. There are four errors in subject–verb agreement. Underline the errors and write the correct word above each one. The first one has been done for you.

Hint

When looking at different tenses, think about when the action happened. Is it happening now? Did it happen in the past or will it happen in the future?

Shop Assistant Required

We need an experienced shop assistant to work in our shop in York.

will have

You has a minimum of 2–3 years' experience in customer service. You is a good communicator, self-motivated and able to meet targets and deadlines.

If you is looking for a fantastic opportunity to progress in a fast-growing company and has the experience and skills required, contact us now by emailing sarah@alleninteriors.biz



Try this

1. Complete the table by adding the correct verb form.

Verb	Past	Present	Future
to find			
	went		
			will eat
		feel	
to work			

2. Read the text below and complete the sentences using the verb in brackets in the correct form.

My first day at work

When I left college I (start) working in an office. On my first day I (meet) my boss, who showed me to my desk. I (feel) very nervous, but everyone (be) really friendly.

3. Now write two sentences about your day yesterday.

Hint

Remember to keep all the verbs in the past tense.

Watch out!

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



Aim to pass

1. A new sports centre, Dinton Leisure Centre, is opening near you. It is looking for friendly and reliable staff. There are the following full-time and part-time vacancies:

- receptionists and office staff
- fitness instructors
- cleaners and security guards
- coffee shop staff.

Write an email to the manager, Ms Viktoria Nowak, applying for a job at the sports centre.

In your email, you should:

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

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

2. You have recently bought a television from an online retailer that you haven't used before. Some of the features work well but others don't work. You have contacted the customer service department, but the problems have not been solved.

Write a review about your new television for an online forum.

In your review, you should:

- say what you like and dislike about your new television
- describe your experience of the company's customer service
- explain whether or not you would recommend the company and the television.

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

Hint

Remember to write in full sentences, check your spelling and use the correct tense.



Rate yourself

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



Got it!

Move on to the next activity.



Not there yet...

Try one of the booster sheets for this worksheet.