Past, Present, and Future Tenses

The **tense** of a verb shows when something happens. Verbs in the **present tense** show action that happens now. Most present tense singular verbs end with *-s*. Most present tense plural verbs do not end with *-s*.

Callie keeps her makeup in little jars. They keep the makeup fresh.

Verbs in the **past tense** show action that has already happened. Most verbs in the past tense end in *-ed*.

She brushed on two coats of mascara.

Verbs in the **future tense** show action that will happen. Add *will* (or *shall*) to most verbs to show the future tense.

Heat will make mascara run.

- Some regular verbs change spelling when *-ed* is added. For verbs ending in *e*, drop the *e* and add *-ed*: *loved, hoped*. For verbs ending in a consonant and *y*, change the *y* to *i*, and add *-ed*: *cried, married*.
- For most one-syllable verbs that end in one vowel followed by one consonant, double the consonant and add *-ed*: *hopped, grabbed*.
- Irregular verbs change spelling to form the past tense: *are/were, break/broke, bring/brought, build/built, buy/bought, do/did, find/found, go/went, have/had, is/was, keep/kept, make/made, ring/rang, sit/sat, see/saw, take/took, teach/taught, tell/told, wear/wore, write/wrote*.

Directions Identify the tense of each underlined verb. Write *present, past,* or *future*.

1. Hieroglyphics tell us about ancient Egypt. _____
2. Archaeologists will search for artifacts. _____
3. Ramses II is a well-known pharaoh. _____
4. Pharaohs built huge statues. _____
5. Egypt was a major world power in 1500 B.C. _____

Directions Write the correct present, past, and future tense of each verb.

Verb	Present	Past	Future
6. find	I _____.	I _____.	I _____.
7. sit	She _____.	She _____.	She _____.
8. carry	We _____.	We _____.	We _____.

Home Activity Your child learned about past, present, and future tenses. Have your child write three sentences about Egypt using a present tense verb, a past tense verb, and a future tense verb and identifying each.

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Past, Present, and Future Tenses

Directions Identify the tense of each underlined verb. Write *present, past,* or *future.*

1. Egypt is in Africa. _____
2. Pharaohs lived in luxury. _____
3. The Moore family will visit Egypt. _____
4. They will find other Egyptian artifacts. _____
5. Thirty-one dynasties reigned in Egypt. _____
6. Memphis, Thebes, and Cairo were capitals of Egypt. _____
7. The Great Pyramid covers thirteen acres. _____
8. Some blocks in the Great Pyramid weigh fifteen tons. _____

Directions Rewrite each sentence twice. First, change the underlined verb to past tense. Then change it to future tense.

9. Burial chambers tell us about ancient Egypt.

   Past: _____

   Future: _____

10. Egyptians carry possessions to the chambers.

    Past: _____

    Future: _____

11. They use a stone coffin called a sarcophagus.

    Past: _____

    Future: _____

12. Archaeologists find burial chambers in other cultures.

    Past: _____

    Future: _____

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School + Home **Home Activity** Your child reviewed past, present, and future tenses. Ask your child to look through a magazine article and find examples of past, present, and future tense verbs.

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