

Verb Tenses

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A verb in the **present tense** shows an action that happens now.
*Marco **collects** insects.*
- A verb in the **past tense** shows an action that has already happened.
*Marco **collected** insects yesterday.*
- A verb in the **future tense** shows an action that will happen. The special verb **will** is used to form the future tense of verbs.
*Marco **will collect** another insect tomorrow.*

A. Write *present, past, or future* to tell the tense of the underlined verb.

1. Marco studies insects whenever he can. _____
2. He thinks they are fascinating creatures. _____
3. He started studying them several years ago. _____
4. He wanted to become an expert on the subject. _____
5. Many people consider Marco an expert already. _____
6. Marco says insects are the largest group of animals. _____
7. It will take him many years to learn about them. _____
8. Yesterday he talked about them in science class. _____
9. Everyone learned a lot of interesting facts. _____
10. Someday Marco will write his own book about insects. _____

B. Underline the verb in each sentence. Then write *present, past, or future* to tell the tense of the verb.



11. Scientists named about 800,000 kinds of insects. _____
12. They classify about 7,000 new kinds every year. _____
13. Insects live almost everywhere on earth. _____
14. Scientists will discover many more kinds in the future. _____
15. Maybe Marco will help them. _____