

Past tense

Regular verbs have three different pronunciations in the past tense (or the past participle). The difference is in the sound you use for the ending. Look at these examples:

A: /t/, for example *placed*

B: /d/, for example *examined*

C: /ɪd/, for example *injected*

Find the past tense verbs in these sentences and classify them by their pronunciation. Put them in the correct columns in the table on the right. Be careful: some sentences have more than one verb. There are 23 examples in total. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. She was ~~vaccinated~~ against smallpox as a child.
2. The doctor diagnosed him as having hepatitis B.
3. Her condition improved, so we reduced the dose.
4. He consulted a specialist, who recommended surgery.
5. The patient coughed and sneezed all through the consultation.
6. The surgeons replaced her hip with a metal one.
7. The doctor prescribed a course of antibiotics.
8. The doctor's speedy action prevented further complications.
9. The pharmacist mixed the chemicals in this bottle.
10. The surgeons operated immediately on the child.
11. He was completely cured.
12. The nurse disinfected and dressed the wound.
13. She was treated by a heart specialist.
14. His pulse rate increased by 10%.
15. The attack was preceded by a rise in body temperature.
16. The surgical instruments were sterilised before use.
17. Nobody noticed that the patient's blood pressure had dropped.
18. The surgeon probed the wound with a scalpel.

Group A: /t/

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....
- 8.....

Group B: /d/

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....

Group C: /ɪd/

- 1... **vaccinated**
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....
- 8.....