

# Grammar

## Tenses

### Recognizing tenses

1 Look at the emojis 1–4 and match them with meanings a–d.

- a I'm only joking!      c I'm not going to say any more!  
b I'll think about it.      d I feel so embarrassed!



1 \_\_\_\_\_



2 \_\_\_\_\_



3 \_\_\_\_\_



4 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Read the text and answer the questions.

- Why were people surprised by the Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year in 2015?
- Who were the first people to use emojis?
- How many emojis are sent every day?

3 Use the verb forms in *italics* in the text to complete the chart.

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Present Simple (x3)             | <i>says</i>      |
| Present Continuous (x1)         |                  |
| Past Simple (x3)                | <i>announced</i> |
| Past Continuous (x1)            |                  |
| Present Perfect (x1)            |                  |
| Present Perfect Continuous (x1) |                  |
| Future Forms (x2)               |                  |
| Present Simple passive (x2)     |                  |
| Past Simple passive (x2)        |                  |

## Lost for words



When the Oxford English Dictionary *announced* its word of the year for 2015, the surprise was ... it wasn't a word! It was the 'face with tears of joy' emoji.



Casper Grathwohl, president of Oxford Dictionaries, decided that emojis were the most important new development in our use of language that year. In 2015, Hillary Clinton *asked* students to tell her how they *felt* about student loans in emojis. Classic literary works *were translated* into emojis – *Moby Dick*, for example, *was renamed* *Emoji Dick*!

Grathwohl, 44, *says* he's *been avoiding* using emojis himself until now – he didn't want people to think he '*was trying*' to get in on teen culture! Emojis were originally popular with Japanese teenagers, and in the UK, a third of people over 40 *have never used* them. However, Grathwohl feels it's *becoming* acceptable for older people to use them now, and even the messages his mother *sends* him are full of them. Worldwide, six billion emojis *are sent* every day, and the 'face with tears of joy' *is used* the most.

Emojis *help* us to communicate better, but they *aren't going to replace* text language. And the 'face with tears of joy' *won't appear* in the Oxford English Dictionary. For a start, there's the problem of where to put it!