

# Past and Present Tense

## Regular and Irregular Verbs

Speaking and  
Listening



For regular verbs, we simply add the suffix -ed to the end of the verb.  
Normal suffix spelling rules apply  
(eg doubling the consonant after a simple vowel)

Walk

Walked

I walk to school.

I walked to school.

Step

Stepped

I step over the gap.

I stepped over the gap.

Time

Timed

I time the race.

I timed the race.

Help

Helped

I help the old man.

I helped the old man.

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But for many verbs in English, there are irregular forms:

Present

I run

I think

Past

I ran

I thought

I runned

I thinked



Change these sentences from present to past:

Whiteboard  
Writing



- 1) I go to the shop and buy some vegetables. (went, bought)
- 2) They feel scared but sing really well. (felt, sang)

Change these sentences from past to present:

- 3) She wrote on the table and so they told the teacher. (writes, tell)
- 4) Because they left late, they took a taxi. (leave, take)



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One very common error is using the verb 'to do'

I do lots of homework.

Which of these is correct?

I done lots of homework

I did lots of homework

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Which of these is correct?

I done lots of homework  I did lots of homework 

Note: If it is perfect tense with auxillary verb have, then done is ok:  
I have done lots of homework.

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Another common error is using was/were

Present

Past

I am

I **was**

You are

You **were**

He is

He **was**

We are

We **were**

You are

You **were**

They are

They **were**

Which of these is correct?

1) I was/were walking home.

2) We was/were playing a game.

3) They was/were being rude.

4) You was/were working as hard as you could.

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Which of these is correct?

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2) We was/were playing a game. (were)

3) They was/were being rude. (were)

4) You was/were working as hard as you could. (were)

Look at the passage below. Change all the verbs from the **past** tense to the **present tense**.

One has been done for you.

**wakes**

My mum's alarm clock woke me at 6am.



I pulled the pillow over my head and sighed.

Suddenly, I heard a crash from my brother's bedroom.

"Great. So much for my lie in!" I thought.

Rewrite the sentence below, changing the verbs to **past tense**.

The boy thinks carefully and makes up his mind.

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Rewrite the sentence below in the **present tense**.

Tom baked a cake.

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Circle the **verb** that shows the **past tense** in each sentence below.

On holiday, we were very happy on the beach.

The journey was rather too long for me.

The weather in Spain is usually hot and sunny,  
though one day it rained a lot.