Time Travel Verbs

Sort verbs by when the action happens.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.1e "Form and use the simple (e.g., I walked; I walk; I will walk) verb tenses."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PRESENT TIME

Use present tense for an action happening now or that happens regularly.

I read before bed.

PAST TIME

Use past tense for an action that already happened.

We planted seeds yesterday.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, circle PRESENT or PAST, then pick two items and explain which verb tells you when each action happens.

1. The birds sing at dawn. **PRESENT** **PAST**
2. Mia draws a map. **PRESENT** **PAST**
3. We visited the museum. **PRESENT** **PAST**
4. Dad packs my lunch. **PRESENT** **PAST**
5. The puppy slept on the rug. **PRESENT** **PAST**
6. I found my lost glove. **PRESENT** **PAST**
7. Our class learns about frogs. **PRESENT** **PAST**
8. The rain stopped at noon. **PRESENT** **PAST**

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new PRESENT sentence and one new PAST sentence.

PRESENT _____

PAST _____

CHALLENGE

Change this sentence to past tense: The dog chases the ball.

ANSWER KEY

Time Travel Verbs

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The birds sing at dawn.	**PRESENT**	Sing is present tense.
2	Mia draws a map.	**PRESENT**	Draws is present tense.
3	We visited the museum.	**PAST**	Visited is past tense.
4	Dad packs my lunch.	**PRESENT**	Packs is present tense.
5	The puppy slept on the rug.	**PAST**	Slept is past tense.
6	I found my lost glove.	**PAST**	Found is past tense.
7	Our class learns about frogs.	**PRESENT**	Learns is present tense.
8	The rain stopped at noon.	**PAST**	Stopped is past tense.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **PRESENT**: My brother rides his bike.
- **PAST**: My brother rode his bike yesterday.

Challenge: The dog chased the ball.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept explanations that name the verb and correctly tell whether the action happens now or already happened. Student-made sentences may vary if the verb tense matches the labeled category.