

Verb Time Machine

Was, is, will be. Slide any action through time.

GRADE 4 • L.4.1b

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1b "Form and use the progressive (e.g., I was walking; I am walking; I will be walking) verb tenses."

NAME _____

DATE _____

YESTERDAY • PAST

was / were + -ing

I was walking.



RIGHT NOW • PRESENT

am / is / are + -ing

I am walking.



TOMORROW • FUTURE

will be + -ing

I will be walking.

SPOT THE TENSE Underline, then circle

Underline the **whole** progressive verb: the helping verb and the -ing verb. Then circle when it happens: **PAST**, **NOW**, or **FUTURE**.

1. The dog is chasing a red ball.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

2. Yesterday, my brother was swimming at the pool.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

3. Tomorrow, Leah will be making birdhouses.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

4. I am drawing a map for our game.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

5. The campers were packing their backpacks.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

6. The twins are running to the bus.

PAST

NOW

FUTURE

THE TIME MACHINE

Fill the empty cells

Each action is stuck in one time. Write its progressive verb phrase for the other two times. Keep the helping verb matched to the subject, and watch the -ing spelling.

SUBJECT + VERB	YESTERDAY (PAST)	RIGHT NOW (PRESENT)	TOMORROW (FUTURE)
The chef to make	was making	_____	_____
The swimmers to swim	_____	are swimming	_____
I to run	_____	_____	will be running

YOUR TURN

Your perfect Saturday

Imagine your perfect Saturday. Write one sentence about the morning as if it already happened, and one about the afternoon as if it is still coming.

PAST

FUTURE

TIME JUMP CHALLENGE

Take sentence 1 from Spot the Tense: *The dog is chasing a red ball.* Send it to **tomorrow**. Write the new sentence.

PART 1 • SPOT THE TENSE

1. **is chasing** · NOW
2. **was swimming** · PAST
3. **will be making** · FUTURE
4. **am drawing** · NOW
5. **were packing** · PAST
6. **are running** · NOW

PART 2 • THE TIME MACHINE

SUBJECT + VERB	YESTERDAY	RIGHT NOW	TOMORROW
The chef (to make)	<i>was making (given)</i>	is making	will be making
The swimmers (to swim)	were swimming	<i>are swimming (given)</i>	will be swimming
I (to run)	was running	am running	<i>will be running (given)</i>

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- On my perfect Saturday, I was swimming at the lake.
- On my perfect Saturday, I will be making pancakes for my family.

Time jump challenge: The dog will be chasing a red ball.

Check that each progressive verb has the correct form of BE for its subject and time, followed by an -ing verb. Check spelling changes in -ing forms, such as making, swimming, and running.