Verb Time Check

Sort sentences by whether their verb forms stay consistent.

11.L.GC.2.b "Compose texts with varied syntax, reshaping sentences for style and effect while maintaining consistency of verb tenses, aspects, and moods. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

MATCHING VERBS

The verbs fit the same time frame and mood. A sentence may use more than one verb form when the forms clearly show the order of events.

The violinist had tuned the strings before the concert began.

UNNEEDED SHIFT

A verb changes tense, aspect, or mood without a reason. The shift makes the sentence's time frame or command unclear.

The coach praised the team and announces the final score.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle MATCHED or SHIFTED for each sentence; then, for Part 2, choose two items and explain which verbs show the category you chose.

1.	The hikers packed their tents and started down the trail.	MATCHED SHIFTED
2.	The council will discuss the proposal and will vote before noon.	MATCHED SHIFTED
3.	After Maya had reviewed the map, she checks the route.	MATCHED SHIFTED
4.	If the alarm had sounded, the guard would have called the police.	MATCHED SHIFTED
5.	The scientist records each result and then labeled the sample.	MATCHED SHIFTED
6.	Please submit the form and explained your choice.	MATCHED SHIFTED
7.	By next Friday, I will have completed the mural and will have photographed it.	MATCHED SHIFTED
8.	Because the power failed, the theater closed early.	MATCHED SHIFTED

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

For Part 3, write one new MATCHED sentence and one new SHIFTED sentence.

MATCHED _____

SHIFTED _____

CHALLENGE

Combine two related past-time actions into one sentence using an introductory clause or phrase, and keep the verbs consistent in past tense.

ANSWER KEY

Verb Time Check

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The hikers packed their tents and started down the trail.	**MATCHED**	Both verbs are in simple past tense.
2	The council will discuss the proposal and will vote before noon.	**MATCHED**	Both verbs are in future tense.
3	After Maya had reviewed the map, she checks the route.	**SHIFTED**	The sentence shifts from past time to present tense without a reason.
4	If the alarm had sounded, the guard would have called the police.	**MATCHED**	The conditional perfect verb forms work together.
5	The scientist records each result and then labeled the sample.	**SHIFTED**	The sentence shifts from present tense to past tense.
6	Please submit the form and explained your choice.	**SHIFTED**	The sentence shifts from imperative mood to past tense.
7	By next Friday, I will have completed the mural and will have photographed it.	**MATCHED**	Both verbs are in future perfect tense.
8	Because the power failed, the theater closed early.	**MATCHED**	Both verbs are in simple 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)

- **MATCHED**: The archivist filed the letters and locked the cabinet.
- **SHIFTED**: The baker measured the flour and adds the yeast.

Challenge: After the rain stopped, the crew repaired the field.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept sentences with different verb forms when the forms intentionally and clearly establish the sequence of events. For Part 2, students should name the relevant verbs and identify whether their tense, aspect, or mood matches.