Verb Time Detectives

Sort two verb aspects by their forms.

5.L.GC.1.43 "Grammar: Form and use the progressive, perfect, and perfect progressive verb aspects. (Continue)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

PERFECT

A perfect verb uses has, have, or had with a past-participle verb, such as eaten. It shows an action that happened before a time.

Keisha has folded a blanket.

CONTINUING

A perfect progressive verb uses has, have, or had been with an -ing verb. It shows an action that continued up to a time.

A rabbit has been hopping across a meadow.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle PERFECT or CONTINUING, then choose two sentences and explain which helping words and verb form show each category.

1.	Our team has practiced the cheer.	PERFECT CONTINUING
2.	I had misplaced my library card.	PERFECT CONTINUING
3.	Dad has been repairing the fence.	PERFECT CONTINUING
4.	We have finished the puzzle.	PERFECT CONTINUING
5.	Rosa had been waiting for the bus.	PERFECT CONTINUING
6.	The clouds have been gathering above town.	PERFECT CONTINUING
7.	The chefs have prepared the soup.	PERFECT CONTINUING
8.	My cousins have explored the museum.	PERFECT CONTINUING

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 sentence with a PERFECT verb and one new sentence with a CONTINUING verb.

PERFECT _____

CONTINUING _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same activity, one with a PERFECT verb and one with a CONTINUING verb.

ANSWER KEY

Verb Time Detectives

GRADE 5 · 5.L.GC.1.43

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Our team has practiced the cheer.	**PERFECT**	Has practiced uses has plus a past participle.
2	I had misplaced my library card.	**PERFECT**	Had misplaced uses had plus a past participle.
3	Dad has been repairing the fence.	**CONTINUING**	Has been repairing uses has been plus an -ing verb.
4	We have finished the puzzle.	**PERFECT**	Have finished uses have plus a past participle.
5	Rosa had been waiting for the bus.	**CONTINUING**	Had been waiting uses had been plus an -ing verb.
6	The clouds have been gathering above town.	**CONTINUING**	Have been gathering uses have been plus an -ing verb.
7	The chefs have prepared the soup.	**PERFECT**	Have prepared uses have plus a past participle.
8	My cousins have explored the museum.	**PERFECT**	Have explored uses have plus a past participle.

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)

- **PERFECT**: Liam has collected three stamps.
- **CONTINUING**: The gardeners have been watering roses since dawn.

Challenge: Before lunch, Omar had washed the dishes. For an hour before lunch, Omar had been washing the dishes.

Accept explanations that identify has, have, or had plus a past participle for PERFECT. For CONTINUING, students should identify has, have, or had been plus an -ing verb.