Time Travel Check

Sort sentences by whether their verb tenses stay steady.

7.L.GC.2.b "Use a variety of simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to condense and combine ideas, maintaining consistent verb tense throughout the text. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

SAME VERB TENSE

The verbs keep the same time. Actions happening in one time period should use matching verb tenses.

The dancers rehearsed carefully, and they bowed together.

VERB TENSE SHIFT

The verbs switch time even though the actions belong in one time period. This can confuse the reader.

The puppy chases its toy and slept on the rug.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CONSISTENT or SHIFTING for each sentence, then choose two items and explain which verbs show your choice.

1.	When the bell rang, Maya packed her notebook and walked to lunch.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
2.	Leo measures the board and labels each edge.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
3.	The hikers crossed the bridge, but they stop to take photos.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
4.	Because the library was quiet, Nia studied, and she completed her outline.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
5.	Although rain soaked the field, the team practices until sunset.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
6.	I will carry the banner while my cousin waved to the crowd.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
7.	The chef chopped onions, and she started the soup.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING
8.	The robot rolls forward when its sensor detected a wall.	CONSISTENT SHIFTING

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 consistent verb tense and one new sentence with a tense shift.

CONSISTENT _____

SHIFTING _____

CHALLENGE

Combine these ideas into one compound or complex sentence. Use past tense for every verb: The thunder began. We closed the windows.

ANSWER KEY

Time Travel Check

GRADE 7 · 7.L.GC.2.b

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	When the bell rang, Maya packed her notebook and walked to lunch.	**CONSISTENT**	Rang, packed, and walked are all past tense.
2	Leo measures the board and labels each edge.	**CONSISTENT**	Measures and labels are both present tense.
3	The hikers crossed the bridge, but they stop to take photos.	**SHIFTING**	Crossed is past tense, but stop is present tense.
4	Because the library was quiet, Nia studied, and she completed her outline.	**CONSISTENT**	Was, studied, and completed are all past tense.
5	Although rain soaked the field, the team practices until sunset.	**SHIFTING**	Soaked is past tense, but practices is present tense.
6	I will carry the banner while my cousin waved to the crowd.	**SHIFTING**	Will carry is future tense, but waved is past tense.
7	The chef chopped onions, and she started the soup.	**CONSISTENT**	Chopped and started are both past tense.
8	The robot rolls forward when its sensor detected a wall.	**SHIFTING**	Rolls is present tense, but detected 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)

- **CONSISTENT**: The campers gathered wood and built a fire.
- **SHIFTING**: The campers gather wood and built a fire.

Challenge: When the thunder began, we closed the windows.

For Part 2, students should name the verbs and explain whether the tenses match. In Part 3, accept varied sentence types when the consistent example uses matching time and the shifting example changes tense without a clear reason.