Time Trackers

Sort sentences by what their verbs do.

L.5.1.d "Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate shifts in verb tense."

NAME _____ DATE _____

TENSE STAYS

Both actions happen in the same time period, and their verbs stay in the same tense.

At sunrise, Iris climbed the hill and waved to her friend.

TENSE SHIFTS

Both actions happen in the same time period, but the verbs change tense for no reason. One verb needs to change.

At noon, Felix opened his umbrella and walks through the rain.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle STAYS or SHIFTS for each sentence, then choose one item from each group and explain how you knew.

1. Yesterday, the class measured the garden bed and records its length. STAYS SHIFTS
2. Last night, Nia folded the blanket and placed it on the shelf. STAYS SHIFTS
3. Each morning, Theo fills the birdbath and sweeps the porch. STAYS SHIFTS
4. Last Saturday, the team painted a sign and carries it inside. STAYS SHIFTS
5. Every Friday, Lena sorts the library books and puts them away. STAYS SHIFTS
6. Every afternoon, Omar waters the seedlings and checked their leaves. STAYS SHIFTS
7. On Tuesday, the cousins built a small bridge and tested it with toy cars. STAYS SHIFTS
8. Tomorrow evening, Dad will cook rice and will serve it with beans. STAYS SHIFTS

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 STAYS sentence and one new SHIFTS sentence. Include a time clue in each sentence so your reader knows when both actions happen.

STAYS _____

SHIFTS _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one SHIFTS sentence from Part 1. Rewrite it so the tenses match, then name the verb you changed.

ANSWER KEY # Time Trackers

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Yesterday, the class measured the garden bed and records its length.	**SHIFTS**	Yesterday calls for past tense; measured is past, but records is present.
2	Last night, Nia folded the blanket and placed it on the shelf.	**STAYS**	Folded and placed are both past tense.
3	Each morning, Theo fills the birdbath and sweeps the porch.	**STAYS**	Fills and sweeps are both present tense.
4	Last Saturday, the team painted a sign and carries it inside.	**SHIFTS**	Last Saturday calls for past tense; painted is past, but carries is present.
5	Every Friday, Lena sorts the library books and puts them away.	**STAYS**	Sorts and puts are both present tense.
6	Every afternoon, Omar waters the seedlings and checked their leaves.	**SHIFTS**	Every afternoon describes a repeated action; waters is present, but checked is past.
7	On Tuesday, the cousins built a small bridge and tested it with toy cars.	**STAYS**	Built and tested are both past tense.
8	Tomorrow evening, Dad will cook rice and will serve it with beans.	**STAYS**	Will cook and will serve are both future 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)

- **STAYS**: This morning, Tessa washed her sneakers and dried them outside.
- **SHIFTS**: Every weekend, Ben rides his bike and stopped at the pond.

Challenge: Yesterday, the class measured the garden bed and recorded its length. I changed records to recorded.

For Part 2, look for explanations that use the time clue and compare the verbs. Accept these corrections for the shifting verbs: 1, recorded; 4, carried; 6, checks.