Time in Verbs

Sort sentences by verb tense.

L.5.1 "When writing or speaking, demonstrate command of the conventions of General American English grammar and usage. Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions and interjections in a grade-level text. Use the perfect verb tenses..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PRESENT PERFECT

Present perfect uses has or have with a past participle. It connects the past to now and can describe something that still continues.

Our neighbor has lived near the coast for years.

SIMPLE PAST

Simple past tells about an action at a past time. It does not use has or have to help the verb.

Last Tuesday, my uncle painted a fence.

1 SORT

8 items

Part 1 SORT: Circle PERFECT or SIMPLE for each sentence; Part 2 PROVE IT: Pick two items and explain how you knew.

1.	Tariq has studied chess since June.	PERFECT SIMPLE
2.	The team has won three games this season.	PERFECT SIMPLE
3.	Jules dropped a coin yesterday.	PERFECT SIMPLE
4.	I have kept this sketchbook since spring.	PERFECT SIMPLE
5.	Nina baked muffins on Saturday.	PERFECT SIMPLE
6.	A fox crossed the trail at dawn.	PERFECT SIMPLE
7.	We have seen that comet twice this month.	PERFECT SIMPLE
8.	Leo has cared for the kitten for six weeks.	PERFECT SIMPLE

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

Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new sentence in present perfect and one in simple past.

PERFECT _____

SIMPLE _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same activity: one in simple past with a specific past time, and one in present perfect showing that the activity continues now.

ANSWER KEY

Time in Verbs

GRADE 5 · L.5.1

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Tariq has studied chess since June.	**PERFECT**	Has studied is present perfect and may describe an activity that continues.
2	The team has won three games this season.	**PERFECT**	Has won is present perfect and connects past wins to the current season.
3	Jules dropped a coin yesterday.	**SIMPLE**	Dropped is simple past and names a past action.
4	I have kept this sketchbook since spring.	**PERFECT**	Have kept is present perfect and describes a state that may continue now.
5	Nina baked muffins on Saturday.	**SIMPLE**	Baked is simple past and names an action at a past time.
6	A fox crossed the trail at dawn.	**SIMPLE**	Crossed is simple past and names a past action.
7	We have seen that comet twice this month.	**PERFECT**	Have seen is present perfect and connects past sightings to this month.
8	Leo has cared for the kitten for six weeks.	**PERFECT**	Has cared is present perfect and may describe care that continues.

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**: Ava has practiced juggling since winter.
- **SIMPLE**: The bus stopped at the corner yesterday.

Challenge: I practiced the piano on Monday. I have practiced the piano every day since then.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify the verb form and connect it to the sentence's meaning. For example, item 1 uses has studied for an activity that may continue, while item 5 uses baked for an action on Saturday.