Verbs Through Time

Sort sentences by when their actions happen.

5.5.R.2 "Students will recognize and explain the impact on meaning of parts of speech in sentences: • nouns • verb tense to identify settings, times, sequences..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PAST ACTION

A past-tense verb tells about an action that already happened.

Foxes darted beneath fences.

FUTURE ACTION

A future-tense verb tells about an action that has not happened yet.

Astronauts are going to explore Neptune.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle PAST or FUTURE for each sentence, then choose one sentence from each group and explain which verb words helped you decide.

1. Jalen washed his bike. PAST FUTURE
2. Rina found her keys. PAST FUTURE
3. Priya will bake muffins. PAST FUTURE
4. Rover chased his tail. PAST FUTURE
5. Sam will build a birdhouse. PAST FUTURE
6. They will search for clues. PAST FUTURE
7. Lena drew a map. PAST FUTURE
8. We carried heavy boxes. PAST FUTURE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one sentence from each group and explain which verb words helped you decide.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence about an action in the past and one about an action in the future, and underline the verb words that show time.

PAST _____

FUTURE _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same kind of action, first in the past and then in the future, and underline the verb words that show time.

ANSWER KEY

Verbs Through Time

GRADE 5 · 5.5.R.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Jalen washed his bike.	**PAST**	Washed tells about an action that already happened.
2	Rina found her keys.	**PAST**	Found is the past tense of find.
3	Priya will bake muffins.	**FUTURE**	Will bake tells about an action that has not happened yet.
4	Rover chased his tail.	**PAST**	Chased tells about an action that already happened.
5	Sam will build a birdhouse.	**FUTURE**	Will build tells about an action that has not happened yet.
6	They will search for clues.	**FUTURE**	Will search tells about an action that has not happened yet.
7	Lena drew a map.	**PAST**	Drew is the past tense of draw.
8	We carried heavy boxes.	**PAST**	Carried tells about an action that already happened.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one sentence from each group and explain which verb words helped you decide. Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **PAST**: Tariq skipped across puddles.
- **FUTURE**: Elena will fold paper cranes.

Challenge: Mara caught a fish. Mara will catch a fish.

The sort has five past-tense sentences and three future-tense sentences. For the explanation, look for a past-tense verb in one chosen item and will plus a verb in the other.