

Name _____

Unit 3 VERBS

Lesson 24: Inappropriate Shifts in Verb Tense (pp. 108–111)

Remember

A verb's tense tells the time of the action. When you shift the tense, you shift the time of the action. When two actions happen in the same time period in one sentence or in two related sentences, both actions should have the same verb tense. An **inappropriate shift in tense** happens if you change the verb tense for actions that happen in the same time period. To correct the shift in verb tense, write both verbs in the past tense or both in the present tense.

Write the word in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence.

1. They visited the zoo, where they _____ a giraffe, a lion, and a tiger. (see, saw)
2. An ant colony has a queen ant and worker ants. The worker ants _____ food to the colony. (carry, carried)
3. He cut the potatoes into small pieces. Then he _____ them in a pot. (puts, put)
4. The coin-sorting machine counts the coins and _____ you a receipt showing how much money you brought. (gives, gave)
5. The fruits in the basket included plums, peaches, and cherries. All _____ ripe and juicy. (are, were)
6. Betsy and David were having fun playing basketball, so they _____ at the court until dusk. (stay, stayed)
7. You must bring the soup to a boil, turn down the heat, and _____ salt and pepper. (added, add)
8. First I spotted a cardinal in a tree. Then I _____ a dove on the sidewalk. (sees, saw)
9. The rising sun shone into the window and _____ the boy from sleep. (woke, wakes)
10. When the clock struck midnight, the princess _____ it was time to go home. (knows, knew)