

SAT Intensive Workshop - Day 17

Tomas Matzner

2 July 2019

1 Today's Events

- Vocabulary quiz and Kahoot.
- Writing section 2 practice exam.
- Practice essay.
- Essay peer review.
- Lunch.
- Review of Writing section 2 from today.
- Math section 3 practice exam.
- Reading section 1 practice exam - did as group.

1.1 Review of Writing section 2 from today

We covered, let's just say, a lot of grammar material today.

1.1.1 Basic Verb Tenses

We took a look at three common verb tenses: *present*, *past*, and *past perfect*.

Definition 17.1. A verb is in the *present* tense if it is describing an action that is happening right now, or an action that happens without stopping (for this reason, this tense is sometimes called *present indefinite*).

Definition 17.2. A verb is in the *past* tense if it is describing an action that happened or existed before the present.

Definition 17.3. A verb is in the *past perfect* tense if it is describing an action that was completed before a certain point in the past. The verb is always preceded by the linking verb “had”.

Many (most?) verbs follow a pattern for their present/past/past perfect forms. All regular verbs follow the pattern of (verb)/(verb)-ed/(verb)-ed for the present/past/past perfect forms. For example, **walk**'s forms are walk/walked/walked, since we say “I walk a lot”, “I walked the dog yesterday”, and “I had walked before the ice cream truck showed up – then I ran.” However, since we're dealing with the English language here, there are many, many exceptions.

Example 17.4. Some regular verbs.

1. Consider the verb to **lie**, meaning to tell a falsehood.

- Present: I lie all the time to get what I want.
- Past: I lied about not getting a new puppy.
- Past Perfect: I had lied frequently, but then I realized that lying is wrong.

So, the form for **lie (to tell falsehood)** is lie/lie/lie.

2. Consider the verb to **lay**, meaning to put down.

- Present: I lay down my cat gently.
- Past: I laid down my fallen comrades during the war.
- Past Perfect: I laid down my friend into the grave before he came back to life.

So, the form for **lay** is lay/laid/laid.

These are *not* to be confused with part 3 of [Example 17.5](#).

Example 17.5. Some exceptions to the (verb)/(verb)-ed/(verb)-ed rule (by no means all of them).

1. Consider the verb to **swim**.

- Present: I swim to get fit.
- Past: I swam yesterday.
- Past Perfect: I had swum yesterday, but then lightning struck nearby and they closed the pool.

So, the form for **swim** is swim/swam/swum.

2. Consider the verb to **write**.

- Present: I write dark novels.
- Past: I wrote an essay earlier, but it wasn't very good.
- Past Perfect: I had written an essay, but then my dog ate it.

So, the form for **write** is write/wrote/written.

3. Consider the verb to **lie**, meaning to rest.

- Present: I lie down to sleep.
- Past: I lay down to take a brief nap yesterday.
- Past Perfect: I had lain down to nap, but my cat woke me up.

So, the form for **lie (to rest)** is lie/lay/lay. Do *not* confuse this with the verbs in [Example 17.4](#).

1.1.2 Parts of Speech

There are, according to some, only eight parts of speech in the English language. Here they are:

1. Nouns. A *noun* is a word that is a person, place, thing, or idea. Some examples include Karun (person), ACES (place), shark (thing), love (idea).
2. Pronouns. A *pronoun* is a word that replaces a noun. Some examples include it, her, him, I.
3. Adjectives. An *adjective* is a word that modifies a noun. Some examples include red, long, hard.
4. Verbs. A *verb* is a word that signifies an action or state of being. Some examples include eat, is, am, write, lay.
5. Adverbs. An *adverb* is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. Some examples include quickly, very, extremely.
6. Prepositions. A *preposition* is a word that links nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence. Their purpose is to connect, usually across time and space. Some examples include of, about, on, before.
7. Conjunctions. A *conjunction* is a word that links clauses and phrases together. The most common ones (the *coordinating conjunctions*) are **For**, **And**, **Nor**, **But**, **Or**, **Yet**, **So** (FANBOYS).
8. Interjections. An *interjection* is a one-word sentence. Some examples include “Yikes!”, “Oof.”, “Yeet!”.

1.1.3 Gerund

Definition 17.6. A *gerund* is a noun that is a verb followed by -ing.

That’s probably not a very illuminating definition, so let’s look at an example.

Example 17.7. Swimming is a gerund, because we could say something like “Swimming is fun.”

1.2 Review of Math section 3 from today

Be sure to review what synthetic division is and how to do it.

2 Homework

Know the following words, as well as their parts of speech, their definitions, and how to use them in a proper sentence.

- colloquial (adj) - referring to language, local and informal.
- dotard (n) - foolish old man.
- furrow (n) - a groove.
- instigate (v) - to cause trouble; to entice to do something (with a negative connotation).
- misnomer (n) - a wrong name.
- percipient (adj) - perceptive and insightful.
- quaff (v) - to drink quickly.

- staunch (adj) - loyal, faithful, and dependable.
- vilification (n) - the blackening of someone's name.
- atrophy (n) - the process of gradually deteriorating.
- collusion (n) - the act of plotting and planning to work together.
- drawl (v) - to speak slowly with words slurring together, as if drunk.
- furtive (adj) - hidden and secret.
- insurgent (n) - a rebel, someone going against the status quo.
- perdition (n) - damnation.
- quagmire (n) - a marsh or bog.
- stereotype (n) - a widely held but oversimplified image of something or someone.
- vindicate (v) - to prove right or to remove blame.
- attenuate (v) - to weaken.
- drivel (n) - nonsense.