

Bright Horizons Academy

Grade 4: Language Arts

Understanding Verb Tenses (Past, Present, Future)

Objective:

Students will *recognize* and correctly use past, present, and future verb tenses to *describe* actions happening at different times and make their writing more clear and exciting.

Core Content:

Verb tenses show *when* something happens.

The **past tense** talks about actions that *already happened*. Words like "*yesterday*" or "*last week*" often signal the past tense. Example: "I walked to school yesterday."

The **present tense** talks about actions *happening now*. Words like "*today*" or "*now*" often signal the present tense. Example: "I walk to school every day."

The **future tense** talks about actions that *will happen*. Words like "*tomorrow*" or "*next week*" often signal the future tense. Example: "I will walk to school tomorrow."

Using the right tense helps make your writing clear.

Examples:

1. Past tense:
 - a. Yesterday, I played soccer.
 - b. Yesterday, I baked a cake.
2. Present tense:
 - a. I play soccer every day.
 - b. I bake cakes every weekend.
3. Future tense:
 - a. Tomorrow, I will play soccer.
 - b. Next week, I will bake a cake for my friend's birthday.

Practice Questions:

Try these questions to practice recognizing and using past, present, and future tenses:

1. Identify the tense: “I danced at the party last night.”
2. Which tense is used in “I will visit my grandmother tomorrow”?
3. Say “I jump rope” in the future tense.
4. Say “She walked to school” in the present tense.
5. Change “We will eat dinner at six” to the past tense.

Answers to Practice Questions:

1. Past tense
2. Future tense

3. "I will jump rope."

4. "She walks to school."

5. "We ate dinner at six."