

**Rule
8**

The tense of a verb tells when an action occurs—
present, past, or future.

- **present**—the action is happening now.

Danny is washing the car for his dad.

- **past**—the action already happened.

Danny washed the car last week, too.

- **future**—the action is going to happen.

He will wash the car again next week.

Verb Tenses

Name _____

When Did It Happen?



A Underline the verbs in this paragraph.

Write a **P** over the verb if it happened in the past.

Write **PR** over the verb if it is happening in the present.

Write an **F** over the verb if it will happen in the future.

My sister promised that she will come for the weekend. She called us last night to say she will come this evening. She will arrive about 6:00 p.m. Mom is fixing her favorite dessert as a surprise. We will have a party while she is here.

B Write a short description about what you did after school yesterday and what you plan to do after school today. Remember to use the correct tenses.

Yesterday, Today, or Tomorrow?


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It is Saturday morning. Zack is in the middle of a busy three-day weekend. He is so busy, in fact, that he has not done a very good job of describing his weekend below. His sentences are out of order. Still, you can figure out what he did yesterday, what he is doing today, and what he will be doing tomorrow based on the verb tense he used in each sentence.

Write *yesterday* beside the activities Zack did on Friday.

Write *today* beside the activities Zack is doing today (Saturday).

Write *tomorrow* beside the activities Zack will be doing on Sunday.

- _____ 1. I will go to church in the morning.
- _____ 2. The teachers had a meeting, so the students stayed home.
- _____ 3. Mom took the day off work and went to the beach with me because there was no school.
- _____ 4. After church, Allen and Eric will come home with me.
- _____ 5. The first thing Allen, Eric, and I will do is grab a quick lunch.
- _____ 6. Drew, Brooke, and I are at the fair.
- _____ 7. After lunch, I will play basketball with Allen and Eric.
- _____ 8. Brooke is petting the sheep in the sheep barn.
- _____ 9. I am sitting on a bench waiting for Drew to get off a roller coaster.
- _____ 10. The sunset at the beach was beautiful.
- _____ 11. Allen and Eric will eat dinner with me before they go home.
- _____ 12. We took a picnic lunch and dinner to the beach and stayed all day.
- _____ 13. Allen, Eric, and I will probably grill hamburgers outside for dinner.
- _____ 14. Drew is still on the roller coaster.
- _____ 15. Mom swam in the ocean, but it was too cold for me!

Correct Tense

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Circle the correct verb tense in each sentence.

1. Roman's grandpa (graduates graduated) from college in 1964.
 2. For ten years after that, he (worked will work) for an architectural firm.
 3. Then, he (opens opened) a firm of his own.
 4. Now, young college graduates (work worked) for Roman's grandpa.
 5. One of his best employees (will open opened) a firm of his own next week.
 6. Roman's grandpa (was will be) proud to attend the new firm's grand opening.
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7. Jordan's sister, Nellie, (is will be) older than Jordan.
 8. Tomorrow, Nellie (will turn turned) sixteen.
 9. She (got will get) her driver's license on her birthday.
 10. Then, she (will drive drove) Jordan to baseball practice.
 11. Last week, Jordan's mom (drives drove) Jordan to practice.
 12. Jordan's mom (is will be) glad when Nellie gets her license.
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13. Tiffany (practices practiced) playing her flute for one hour last night.
 14. She (is will be) practicing again right now.
 15. If she continues to practice, she (was will become) a very good player.