

Using Correct Tenses

Below sentences are given referring to either the past tense, the present tense, or the future tense. You have to fill in the blank boxes.

Past tense	Present tense	Future tense
He had just left the park.	He is leaving the park.	He will leave the park.
		Steve is going to buy a bike.
Joe had stolen the sweets.		
	Cats like milk.	
Shona called David on the telephone.		
		Will you help him later?
	He has his passport in hand.	
I did not go to Korea last year.		
	I always pay my debts.	
		I'll get it.

The first bit of text is in present tense – what I am doing **now**. The second bit is in past tense – what I did **yesterday**.

I **get** up at about 8 'o'clock and **go** downstairs for some breakfast. I **walk** down to the shop and I **buy** a banana and some orange juice. I **come** back home and **make** myself a cup of tea. Next, I **listen** to the football on the radio before I **go** and **meet** some friends at the cinema. I then **watch** a film called Alice in Wonderland and then I **go** back home. I **cook** some chicken and pasta for my dinner and I **eat** it quickly because I **am** hungry.

I ____ up at about 8 'o'clock and _____ downstairs for some breakfast. I _____ down to the shop and I _____ a banana and some orange juice. I _____ back home and _____ myself a cup of tea. I _____ to the football on the radio before I _____ and _____ some friends at the cinema. I _____ a film called Alice in Wonderland and then I _____ back home. I _____ some chicken and pasta for my dinner and I _____ it quickly because I _____ hungry.

The sentences below are either past or present tense. Change them into future tense.

1. My wonderful mum made me a magnificent birthday cake and I cleaned up.
2. My friends and I played hop scotch at school yesterday and I won.
3. Dad ran from Omagh to Drumquin by himself and bought water in the shop.

4. I jumped into my cosy bed at 9pm and slept soundly.
5. I am doing my homework very neatly tonight and working quietly.
6. I am singing my song very loudly and tapping my feet.
7. Mr Scratch sharpened his nails on the door and rolled on the carpet.
8. The cows are eating the green grass and walking around the field.
9. The school dinner is chicken curry and chips today.
10. I am going to the cinema now and I am excited!.

Choose an appropriate verb for each blank space.

1. I _____ at the disco last night.
2. Babies _____ when they are hungry,
3. My T.V. _____ because I spilled water on it.
4. The ice lolly _____ if you leave it out in the sun all day.
5. Our class _____ with the equipment on Tuesday.
6. I _____ my homework when I get home.

Tick the box in each row to show which tense the sentence is written in.

Sentence	simple past	past progressive	simple present	present progressive	present perfect	past perfect
I am eating cakes.				✓		
She ate cakes.						
They were eating cakes.						
The children learnt about Romans in history.						
The computer works well.						
The computer worked well.						
I have lost my trainers.						
The children are choosing what they want to do.						
They added raisins to the muffins.						
He was hiding in the laundry basket.						
Elaine has wanted to be a police officer for 15 years.						
Sam is playing on the computer.						
Sam often reads and plays on the computer.						
Sam often read and played on the computer.						
They have eaten all the cakes and now they feel sick.						
I have never been to Legoland.						
That was annoying.						

