

Name:

Date:

CONVENTIONS ▶ **VERB TENSES**

A verb expresses an action or a state of being. The **tense** of a verb shows when the action happens or the state exists. In English, there are six common verb tenses.

Present Tense	The action is happening now or happens regularly.	Pat <u>paints</u> something every day.
Past Tense	The action has already happened.	Pat <u>painted</u> the porch yesterday.
Future Tense	The action will happen later.	Pat <u>will paint</u> the steps on Friday.
Present Perfect Tense	The action happened in the past and may still be happening now.	Pat <u>has painted</u> the kitchen once before.
Past Perfect Tense	The action ended before another action in the past.	Pat <u>had painted</u> the bedrooms before I arrived.
Future Perfect Tense	The action will have ended before a specific time.	By the end of next week, Pat <u>will have painted</u> the living room and dining room.

DIRECTIONS: Underline the verb in each sentence. Then, identify the tense of the verb by writing *present*, *past*, *future*, *present perfect*, *past perfect*, or *future perfect* on the line.

- _____ Luisa wrote to the mayor about the smog problem.
- _____ By next year, that iron shop will have been in business for 100 years.
- _____ Scientists will use a special new telescope for their research.
- _____ Most of the stage crew have left at 4:00, as usual.
- _____ The O'Neals lived in Kentucky for six years.
- _____ Theo usually takes the bus to school.
- _____ After dinner, Mr. Stamos will offer the guests his famous Greek lemon cake.
- _____ By lunchtime, Leah had read almost the entire book.

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A. DIRECTIONS: Underline the verb in each sentence. Then, identify the tense of the verb by writing *present*, *past*, *future*, *present perfect*, *past perfect*, or *future perfect* on the line.

1. _____ By that time, the dance troupe had mastered the routine for their fall recital.
2. _____ Tori and Jo will spend the afternoon surfboarding.
3. _____ By next Thursday, we will have finished the set for the play.
4. _____ All of us in the cast felt proud of our performances.
5. _____ Pablo has won several awards for his poetry.
6. _____ The plumber completes all of his jobs properly and on time.

B. DIRECTIONS: Complete each sentence by writing the correct verb tense on the line provided. The hints in parentheses tell you which verb and tense to use.

1. (past tense of *transport*) The bird keepers _____ the cranes to their new habitat.
2. (past perfect tense of *walk*) It seemed as though we _____ at least five miles through the woods.
3. (present perfect tense of *consult*) Dad _____ an eye doctor about his vision problem.
4. (future perfect tense of *hatch*) The robin's eggs _____ by the end of June if all goes well.
5. (present tense of *fight*) Male kangaroos _____ each other for mating rights.
6. (future tense of *begin*) The concert _____ at about 6:30.