

COMMON ERRORS IN VERB TENSE

- I **have wrote** a book that needs editing.
- The forms **have already went** to the president's office.
 - I **should have did** the right thing by apologizing.
 - The mail carrier **hasn't came** yet.
 - I **seen** you at the Earth, Wind, and Fire concert.
- Adapted from UWF's Writing Lab (www.uwf.edu)

VERB FORMS

- **Every English verb except “be” has 5 forms**, which vary depending on whether the verb is REGULAR (changes its form in a regular/standard way such as “type” and “text”) or IRREGULAR (changes its forms in an irregular way such as “write”).

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|---|--------|---------|---------|
| ● BARE/INFINITIVE | type | text | write |
| ● -s Form (Present) | types | texts | writes |
| ● -ing (Present Participle) | typing | texting | writing |
| ● -ed (Past) | typed | texted | wrote |
| ● -en (Past Participle – used
with <i>has, have, had</i> , and
other helping verbs) | typed | texted | written |

VERB FORMS

- Use the past participle form with a helping verb (*is, are, was, were, has, have*).

- **PRESENT**

come
do
drag
dream
drive
drink
go
see
shine
shrink
strive
swim
write

- **PAST**

came
did
dragged
dreamed, dreamt
drove
drank
went
saw
shone
shrank, shrunk
strived, strove
swam
wrote

- **PAST PARTICIPLE**

(has) come
(has) done
(has) dragged
(has) dreamed, dreamt
(has) driven
(has) drunk
(has) gone
(has) seen
(has) shined, shone
(has) shrunk
(has) strived, striven
(has) swum
(has) written



TENSE

Tense refers to the ability of verbs to indicate the time of an action.

- **PRESENT: Used for action...**

- **in real time:** class starts now.
- **in habitual or recurring time:** The class meets on Tuesdays from 8:00 till 9:45 a.m.
- **as a general truth:** The college offers associate and bachelor's degrees.
- **in literature:** In this play, the Montagues and Capulets are enemies.

- **PAST: Used for action...**

- **that happened in the past:** I slipped on the ice yesterday, but I was okay.
- Classes were cancelled last week because of snow. (passive voice)

- **PRESENT PARTICIPLE: Used for action...**

- **that is continuing:** Enrollment is increasing each year. (passive voice)

- **FUTURE: Used for action...**

- **that will happen:** I will drive to Florida for vacation.
- The university will be closed for Thanksgiving. (passive voice)



- **Mood** enables verbs to express attitudes, intentions, commands, wishes, recommendations, and possibilities.
- **COMMANDS**
 - Place all assignments in the mailbox by the deadline.
- **WISHES**
 - I wish I were rich.
 - If I were the professor, I would give all of my students an A.
- **RECOMMENDATIONS/REQUIREMENTS**
 - It is important that everyone be on time.

Choosing the Right Time (the Right Tense) and the Right Mood

- The professor (has went, has gone) over the course requirements already.
- The syllabus requires that each student (write, writes) three papers and take two essay tests.
- In that article, the author (examined, examines) several causes of crime.
- My history professor reminded us that the fake diaries (are, were) not authentic.
- If I (was, were) a rich person, I'd still buy lottery tickets and use coupons.

Choosing the Right Time (the Right Tense) and the Right Mood

- The professor (has went, **has gone**) over the course requirements already. (**present perfect, irregular participle**)
- The syllabus requires that each student (**write**, writes) three papers and take two essay tests. **Subjunctive mood - requirement**
- In that article, the author (examined, **examines**) several causes of crime. **Literary present**
- My history professor reminded us that the fake diaries (**are**, were) not authentic. **Literary present**
- If I (was, **were**) a rich person, I' d still buy lottery tickets and clip coupons from the paper. **Subjunctive mood - wish**

Choosing the Right Time (the Right Tense) and the Right Mood

- I like to read books I wish I (had wrote, had written).
- It is important that each student (submit, submits) all papers on time.
- The Writing Lab tutor told us that *all right* (is, was) two words
- *Macbeth* (is, was) written by William Shakespeare; it (is, was) a play in which the king (is, was) a tragic hero.
- *Shelter* by Jung Yun (is, was) a remarkable novel that (gives, gave) a gripping portrait of a family crumbling in the aftermath of terrible trauma.

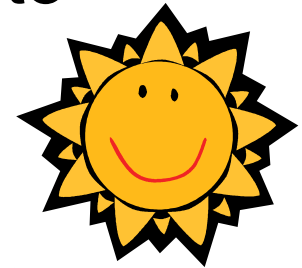
Choosing the Right Time (the Right Tense) and the Right Mood

- I like to read books I wish I (had wrote, **had written**). (**Past perfect, irregular participle**)
- It is important that each student (**submit**, submits) all papers on time. **Subjunctive mood - importance**
- The Writing Lab tutor told us that *all right* (**is**, was) two words. **Present tense – general truth**
- *Macbeth* (is, **was**) written by William Shakespeare; it (**is**, was) a play in which the king (**is**, was) a tragic hero. **Historical past tense and literary present tense**
- *Shelter* by Jung Yun (**is**, was) a remarkable novel that (**gives**, gave) a gripping portrait of a family crumbling in the aftermath of terrible trauma. **Sequence of tenses / present tense for literature**

USE PRESENT TENSE

- In universally true statements not limited to a particular time:

- *The Sun is ninety-three million miles from Earth.*



- In definitions:

- *Hardware is the physical system of a computer.*



- In statements about the content of literature and other published works:

- *Hamlet is extremely indecisive.*



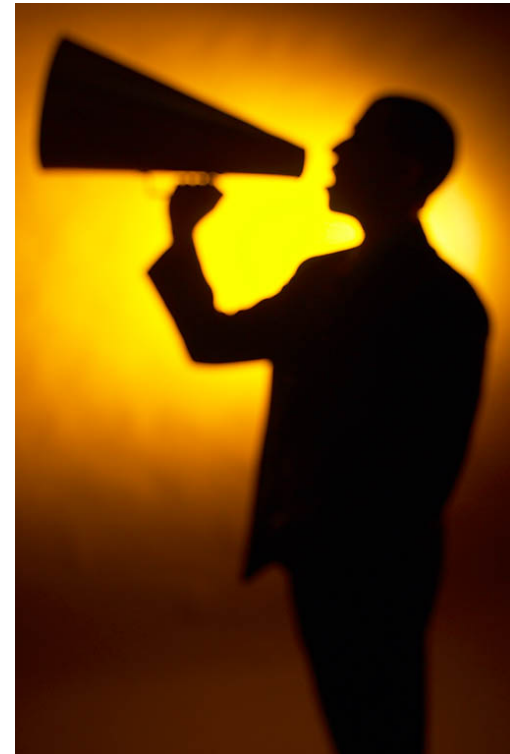
USE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

- the present form of have (have or has) with a past participle verb form
- For an action that began in the past but continues into the future:
 - *I have lived in Pensacola all my life.*



USE PAST TENSE

- For historical or past information:
 - The speaker said, “If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything.”



USE PAST PERFECT TENSE

- the past form of have (had) with a past participle verb form
- For an earlier action that is mentioned after a later action:
 - Marvin bought the car that he had seen advertised in the paper. (First, he saw it; then he bought it.)



USE FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

- the auxiliary will have or shall have with a past participle verb form
- For an action that will have been completed at a specific future time:
 - **By 2022, I will have graduated from college.**



USE A PRESENT PARTICIPLE VERBAL

- ***-ing* verb form used as an adjective**
- For an action that occurs at the same time as the verb:
 - Walking to the subway, I saw two stray cats.



USE A PAST PARTICIPLE VERB FORM

- Only with auxiliary/helping verbs (*is, are, was, were, has, have, had*):
 - The professor has already ~~went~~ gone over the assignment, and I have ~~wrote~~ written the paper.
 - The bell has ~~rang~~ rung.
 - I should have ~~came~~ come to class sooner.
 - I have ~~did~~ done my work.

USE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

- To express a condition contrary to fact or a wish:
 - **If I were President, I'd welcome refugees.**
 - **The CFO would have been terminated a long time ago were he not the CEO's nephew.**
- To express insistence, importance, necessity, or urgency after the word that:
 - **It is important that you be on time.**
 - **We demand that the company do something about its toxic waste.**
 - **The syllabus requires that each student write a research paper.**

Use of the Subjunctive

- The IRS requires that everyone **submit** [not **submits**] a tax return by April 15.
- It is important that all employees **be** [not **are**] on time.
- I wish I **were** [not **was**] a doctor and could help the earthquake victims.



- I have already (spoken, spoke) to the optician about my new pair of contact lenses.
- In college, I hope (to study, to have studied) subjects which will be useful to me later.
- We were told at the station that it (is, was) fourteen stops on the C from Jay Street-Metrotech to the Natural History Museum.



- I have already (spoken, spoke) to the optician about my new pair of contact lenses.

- **SPOKEN**

- In college, I hope (to study, to have studied) subjects which will be useful to me later.

- **TO STUDY**

- We were told at the station that it (is, was) fourteen stops on the C from Jay Street-Metrotech to the Natural History Museum.

- **IS**



More Practice

- It is necessary that our signatures (are, be) witnessed by a notary.
- Have you ever (flew, flown) coast to coast using Eastern Airlines' excursion rates?
- If Ted (had apologized, would have apologized) I would have forgiven him.



More Practice

- It is necessary that our signatures (are, be) witnessed by a notary.

- **BE**

- Have you ever (flew, flown) coast to coast using Eastern Airlines' excursion rates?

- **FLOWN**

- If Ted (had apologized, would have apologized) I would have forgiven him.


- **HAD APOLOGIZED**

PRE-QUIZ REVIEW with hints

- When I went away to finish my degree, three students rented my house. And when I had come back, they had four cats. Two of them, Narnia and Mary, were pregnant; Grendel already delivered a litter. The fourth, called “Kitten,” was the only cat they had kept from that litter.

PRE-QUIZ REVIEW **with answers**

- When I went away to finish my degree, three students rented my house. And when I had come **came** back, they had four cats. Two of them, Narnia and Mary, were pregnant; Grendel **had** already delivered a litter. The fourth, called “Kitten,” was the only cat they had kept from that litter.

- 
- I demanded that my tenants had found a solution to this cat population explosion, and one by one, the cats did find homes. Grendel went to a farm as a barn cat because she was a skillful hunter. Narnia and Mary each joined families with children. Only Kitten had been left. Just three months old, she was the cutest and the liveliest, but the boyfriend of one of the students had wanted her.

- I demanded that my tenants **find** ~~had~~ found a solution to this cat population explosion, and one by one, the cats ~~did~~ find **found** homes. Grendel went to a farm as a barn cat because she was a skillful hunter. Narnia and Mary each joined families with children. Only Kitten ~~had~~ been **was** left. Just three months old, she was the cutest and the liveliest, but the boyfriend of one of the students ~~had~~ wanted **wanted** her.