

# Perfect Verb Tenses

It may take some practice, but you can understand perfect verb tenses perfectly. As with simple tenses, perfect tenses deal with time. (For more information, turn to the introduction on page 448 and to 448.4 - 449 in *Write Source 2000*.)

## EXAMPLES

### *Present Perfect Tense:*

A present perfect verb shows action that began in the past and continues or is completed in the present.

**Westerners have heard tales of lost mines.**

(Add *has* or *have* to the past participle to form the present perfect tense.)

### *Past Perfect Tense:*

A past perfect verb shows action that began and ended in the past.

**Many prospectors had found and then had lost valuable mines.**

(Add *had* to the past participle to form the past perfect tense.)

### *Future Perfect Tense:*

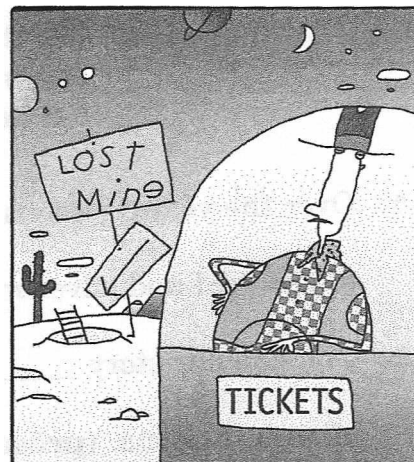
A future perfect verb shows action that will begin and end in the future. **Mines yet to be found will have hidden their treasures for centuries.**

(Add *shall have* or *will have* to the past participle to form the future perfect tense.)

## Directions

List the past participles for the following present tense verbs. The first one has been done for you.

- |            |             |             |       |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| 1. be      | <u>been</u> | 7. die      | _____ |
| 2. tell    | _____       | 8. surface  | _____ |
| 3. feature | _____       | 9. continue | _____ |
| 4. uncover | _____       | 10. scour   | _____ |
| 5. find    | _____       | 11. unearth | _____ |
| 6. kill    | _____       | 12. fight   | _____ |



**Directions**

Use the past participles of the listed verbs with *have*, *had*, *has*, and/or *will* to form the perfect tenses as shown. The first one has been done for you.

1. Over the years, Westerners have told  
(tell) and retold many tales of lost gold and silver mines. **(present perfect)**
2. One popular story \_\_\_\_\_ the legendary Lost Dutchman Mine in Arizona. **(present perfect)**  
(feature)
3. Along with three partners, a man known as Jake Miller \_\_\_\_\_ the mine and left a map showing its location. **(past perfect)**  
(find)
4. Miller \_\_\_\_\_ at least three people to keep the mine a secret, and many others \_\_\_\_\_ trying to find it. **(past perfect)**  
(kill) (die)
5. Many legends about the mine \_\_\_\_\_, including one story about Apaches filling the mine with rocks. **(past perfect)**  
(surface)
6. People \_\_\_\_\_ to search for the mysterious mine and its vast treasure of gold. **(present perfect)**  
(continue)
7. They \_\_\_\_\_ the area south of the Salt river near Weaver's Needle and the Superstition Mountains. **(present perfect)**  
(scour)
8. If anyone finds the Lost Dutchman or other lost mine, he or she \_\_\_\_\_ a long hidden secret of the West. **(future perfect)**  
(unearthed)
9. After many years of searching, the finder of a lost mine \_\_\_\_\_ against terrific odds and won. **(future perfect)**  
(fight)