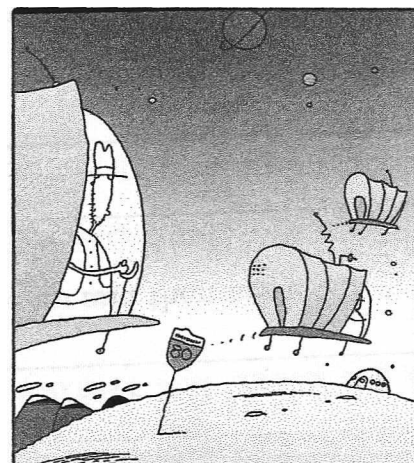


Simple Verb Tenses

Understanding the three simple tenses, or times, of a verb is not difficult. A verb is in either the **present** tense, the **past** tense, or the **future** tense. (For more information about verb tenses, turn to 448.1-448.3 in *Write Source 2000*.)



EXAMPLES

Present Tense:

A present-tense verb expresses an action that is going on now or shows something that happens regularly.

People cross the country using the same routes the pioneers used.

Past Tense:

A past tense verb expresses an action that happened in the past. Many past tense verbs end in *ed*.

Pioneers crossed the country in wagon trains.

Future Tense:

A future tense verb states an action that will take place in the future. A helping verb (*will, shall, could*) helps a verb show the future tense.

You will cross the country along a pioneer route if you follow Interstate 80.

Directions

Write the past and future tenses of the following verbs:

	Past	Future		Past	Future
1. is	_____	_____	8. crack	_____	_____
2. pour	_____	_____	9. move	_____	_____
3. drive	_____	_____	10. travel	_____	_____
4. start	_____	_____	11. swim	_____	_____
5. eat	_____	_____	12. pay	_____	_____
6. sound	_____	_____	13. sell	_____	_____
7. take	_____	_____	14. fly	_____	_____

Directions

Rewrite each sentence by changing the verb to the tenses listed. Change any other words as necessary. Keep the meaning of the new sentences as close the original meaning as you can. The first sentences have been done for you.

1. It was four o'clock in the morning.

Present It is four o'clock in the morning.

Future It will be four o'clock in the morning.

2. People poured out of every wagon and tent.

Present _____

Future _____

3. At five o'clock, the herders will drive 5,000 oxen into the corral.

Present _____

Past _____

4. The drivers pick their teams and hitch them to the wagons.

Past _____

Future _____

5. At six o'clock, we will eat breakfast and load the wagons.

Present _____

Past _____

6. At seven o'clock, the 60 wagons will line up and then move out.

Present _____

Past _____