

Enrichment Strategy: Chronological Expression

“What Am I?”

Verb Tenses -- Past, Present, Future, Conditional

This offline enrichment strategy helps students reinforce their understanding and mastery of verb tenses. This activity is best completed after students have had a chance to play the online Featured Games for Verb Tenses.

Goal: To help students recognize and use verb tenses correctly.

What You'll Need:

- Printer & Copier
- Answer card handout, one per student
- Scissors

What To Do:

1. Print template, one per student.
2. Distribute to students and have them cut out their 4 cards.
3. Have students stand at their desks.
4. Tell them they will have 10 seconds to pick a card that shows the correct verb tense.
5. Read the first sentence and ask, “Which tense did I use?” Read it a second time.
6. Count to 10 while students choose the card they believe represents the correct verb tense.
7. Read the sentence one last time and ask, “Which tense did I use?”
8. **At the same time**, students answer verbally and raise their cards.
9. Students holding up the wrong card should sit down.
10. The last student standing wins the game.

For Example:

- You read: “Tomorrow they will go to the store. Which tense did I use?”
- You repeat: “Tomorrow they will go to the store. Which tense did I use?”
- You count to 10 while students decide which of their 4 cards to raise.
- After reaching 10, you say, “Tomorrow they will go to the store. Which tense did I use?”
- Students all answer together: **Future,** holding up the card *at the same time*.

past

present

future

conditional

Sample Questions:

I am hungry. Which tense did I use?	present
Yesterday I watered the garden. Which tense did I use?	past
Next year I will win the spelling bee. Which tense did I use?	future
I was surprised that he didn't like the pie. Which tense did I use?	past
He sings beautifully. Which tense did I use?	present
I will swim all day.	future
I would travel to Paris if I could afford it.	conditional
Soon I am going to go to the store.	future
I am running as fast as I can!	present
Seeing her was sad.	past
I love poppyseed cake.	present
I ate too much and then I slept.	past
I would sail around the world with you if you asked.	conditional
Tomorrow we're going to go on a field trip.	future
Look at that weird bird.	present
He had wanted to go.	past
She would answer the question if she understood it.	conditional
They had stayed out well past their bedtime.	past
I am working on my project.	present
I will be seeing him over vacation.	future
They are happy to be outside.	present
Michael visited her already.	past
I will start my homework at four.	future
When I grow up, I will be a plumber.	future
She broke her arm last winter.	past
I crack the eggs into the bowl.	present
I would play all day if I were allowed.	conditional
Martha pours the milk.	present
He had stayed quiet long enough.	past
They went to the play and enjoyed it.	past
I will ride twenty miles in the race.	future
I go to a concert when I can.	present
Please help me learn this song.	present
I would get a cat if I weren't allergic.	conditional
You will love this book.	future
Why didn't you eat your lunch?	past
Doesn't she look pretty?	present
I wished the movie would go on forever.	past
On my birthday I will eat cake.	future
May I go to Adam's house?	present