

Lesson 8

Simple Verb Tenses



Introduction

The **tense** of a verb helps readers know when something is happening.

- The **present tense** shows that something is happening *now*, or in the present.

I walk on the grass.

- The **past tense** shows that something happened *before*, or in the past. To form the past tense of most verbs, add *-ed* at the end.

In 1969, Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

- The **future tense** shows what *is going to* happen in the future. To form the future tense, put *will* before the verb.

Maybe someday we will walk on Mars.

Look at the table below. Notice how the verbs change when the tense changes.

Present Tense	look	roam	discover
Past Tense	looked	roamed	discovered
Future Tense	will look	will roam	will discover



Guided Practice

Write the correct tense of the verb to complete each sentence.

HINT Words and phrases such as *in 1958*, *today*, and *years from now* can help you decide which verb tense to use.

- 1 The NASA space program _____ in 1958.
start
- 2 In 1961, NASA _____ a capsule called *Freedom 7*.
launch
- 3 John Glenn _____ Earth in 1962.
orbit
- 4 Today, astronauts _____ on a space station.
stay
- 5 Years from now, we will _____ to other planets.
travel

 Independent Practice

For numbers 1–5, choose the sentence in which the tense of the verb is correct.

- 1** A Our class visited Johnson Space Center next Wednesday.
B Our class will visited Johnson Space Center next Wednesday.
C Our class visit Johnson Space Center next Wednesday.
D Our class will visit Johnson Space Center next Wednesday.
- 2** A Yesterday we learn about a space rover trip to Mars.
B Yesterday we learned about a space rover trip to Mars.
C Tomorrow we learned about a space rover trip to Mars.
D Yesterday we will learn about a space rover trip to Mars.
- 3** A The rover, named *Curiosity*, landed on Mars in August of 2012.
B The rover, named *Curiosity*, land on Mars in August of 2012.
C The rover, named *Curiosity*, will land on Mars in August of 2012.
D The rover, named *Curiosity*, will landed on Mars in August of 2012.
- 4** A Right now, videos from *Curiosity* show the surface of Mars.
B Right now, videos from *Curiosity* will showed the surface of Mars.
C In the future, videos from *Curiosity* showed the surface of Mars.
D In the future, videos from *Curiosity* show the surface of Mars.
- 5** A At the Space Center next week, I ask more about *Curiosity*.
B At the Space Center next week, I asked more about *Curiosity*.
C At the Space Center next week, I will ask more about *Curiosity*.
D At the Space Center next week, I will asked more about *Curiosity*.