

PAST AND PRESENT

Verbs can be **past tense** or **present tense**.

Present tense means that the action is happening **NOW**.

Past tense means that the action happened some time ago, in the **PAST**.

PRESENT TENSE:



I sing in the school choir.

I am singing in the school choir.

These are actions that are happening now – the verbs are in the **PRESENT TENSE**.

PAST TENSE:



I walked to school yesterday.

I was walking to school every day last year.

These are actions that happened in the past – the verbs are in the **PAST TENSE**.

EXTRA NOTE:

'to be' is a verb, too!

I am a fast runner. Dad was early. She is a nurse.

Exercise 1

Past tense or present tense? Draw a circle around the correct answer.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| a) John <u>has</u> a pet dog. | PRESENT / PAST |
| b) I <u>am having</u> a good time. | PRESENT / PAST |
| c) He <u>ran</u> all the way to the shop. | PRESENT / PAST |
| d) They <u>were</u> always late for school. | PRESENT / PAST |
| e) She <u>is hoping</u> for a new bike for her birthday. | PRESENT / PAST |
| f) Dad <u>changed</u> his clothes after work. | PRESENT / PAST |
| g) Pat was chasing after her friend all playtime. | PRESENT / PAST |

Exercise 2

Look at this short story. There are **12 verbs**.

Can you find them all?

- a) Draw a circle around the **12 verbs / verb phrases**.

(Remember - phrase means a group of two or more words)

One has been done for you.

Last weekend



Mum and I **walked** to my grandpa's flat last weekend. He is living on his own. He is a good cook and makes a great roast dinner. He cooked Yorkshire puddings that tasted really good. After dinner, we watched TV. We were watching a DVD when the doorbell rang. It was my dad. He had come home from work and wanted some of grandpa's dinner, too.

- b) Complete the table below.

Find and copy a verb / verb phrase from the story that matches each description.

	Description	Example from the story
	Past tense – one word	walked
a	Past tense – one word	
b	Present tense – one word	
c	Present tense – two words	
d	Past tense – two words	
e	Present tense of the verb 'to be'	
f	Past tense of the verb 'to be'	

Third party content:

Boy singing - (c) chihhang/iStock

Girl going to school - (c) Tigatelu/iStock/Thinkstock

Grandfather and Grandson: © yuoak/iStock/Thinkstock