



## Reading On The Move

### Past, Present, or Future?

#### Verb Tense

**Verb tense** expresses when something happened, is happening, or will happen. In this lesson you will learn about three (3) different tenses. These tenses are ***past tense***, ***present tense***, and ***future tense***.



- ***Past tense*** expresses an action that has already happened. Often times when verbs are in the past tense, they have the suffix –ed.

**Example:** The movie ended at 6 o'clock.  
My sister cried all night.

- ***Present tense*** expresses an action that is happening right now.

**Example:** I am learning about verbs.  
She is being noisy.

Present tense also expresses actions that are unchanging, reoccurring, and known truths.

**Example:** These mountains are tall and white. (unchanging)  
Every year, the senior class graduates from high school.  
(reoccurring)  
H<sub>2</sub>O is the chemical symbol for water. (known truth)

- **Future tense** expresses actions that will happen. This is created when the words *will* and *shall* are used with a verb.

**Example:** I shall return.

We will eat dinner.

Read each of the following sentences and write present, past or future on the line.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Nick feeds his puppy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Shelly saw a bumble bee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Joe will play golf.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ashley will go to school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Aaron drinks coffee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Casey writes letters to his sister.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Nate sold his motorcycle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Troy plays in a band.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Elizabeth sings in the choir.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Henry will go to the market with George.

Choose the correct verb to match the tense in the ( ) parenthesis.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Mom \_\_\_\_\_ the groceries inside. (past tense)

- a. carried
- b. carries
- c. will carry

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. Charlie \_\_\_\_\_ in the ocean. (future tense)

- a. surfed
- b. surfs
- c. will surf

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. My brother \_\_\_\_\_ at me to stop bugging him. (present tense)

- a. yelled
- b. yells
- c. will yell

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. Cory \_\_\_\_\_ the fence. (future tense)

- a. painted
- b. paints
- c. will paint

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. My grandma \_\_\_\_\_ cookies for me. (past tense)

- d. baked
- e. bakes
- f. will bake

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. His little sister \_\_\_\_\_ shiny pennies. (present tense)

- g. saved
- h. saves
- i. will save

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Sheila \_\_\_\_\_ around the room. (past tense)

- j. danced
- k. dances
- l. will dance

**Contractions** are a quick way to say or write two words. Making two words into a contraction means that you squish together two words, leave out a letter or two, and add an apostrophe ( ' ). The apostrophe ( ' ) is put in the word to show where letters have been left out. This table shows many common contractions.

	<b>to be</b>	<b>had</b>	<b>to have</b>	<b>will</b>	<b>would</b>
<b>he</b>	he's <i>he is</i>	he'd <i>he had</i>	he's <i>he has</i>	he'll <i>he will</i>	he'd <i>he would</i>
<b>she</b>	she's <i>she is</i>	she'd <i>she had</i>	she's <i>she has</i>	she'll <i>she will</i>	she'd <i>she would</i>
<b>it</b>	it's / 'tis <i>it is</i>	it'd <i>it had</i>	it's <i>it has</i>	it'll <i>it will</i>	it'd <i>it would</i>
<b>I</b>	I'm <i>I am</i>	I'd <i>I had</i>	I've <i>I have</i>	I'll <i>I will</i>	I'd <i>I would</i>
<b>you</b>	you're <i>you are</i>	you'd <i>you had</i>	you've <i>you have</i>	you'll <i>you will</i>	you'd <i>you would</i>
<b>they</b>	they're <i>they are</i>	they'd <i>they had</i>	they've <i>they have</i>	they'll <i>they will</i>	they'd <i>they would</i>
<b>that</b>	that's <i>that is</i>	that'd <i>that had</i>	that's <i>that has</i>	that'll <i>that will</i>	that'd <i>that would</i>
<b>who</b>	who's <i>who is</i>	who'd <i>who had</i>	who's <i>who has</i>	who'll <i>who will</i>	who'd <i>who would</i>
<b>what</b>	what's <i>what is / are</i>	what'd <i>what had</i>	what's <i>what has</i>	what'll <i>what will</i>	what'd <i>what would</i>
<b>when</b>	when's <i>when is</i>	when'd <i>when had</i>	when's <i>when has</i>	when'll <i>when will</i>	when'd <i>when would</i>
<b>where</b>	where's <i>where is</i>	where'd <i>where had</i>	where's <i>where has</i>	where'll <i>where will</i>	where'd <i>where would</i>
<b>why</b>	why's <i>why is</i>	why'd <i>why had</i>	why's <i>why has</i>	why'll <i>why will</i>	why'd <i>why would</i>
<b>how</b>	how's <i>how is</i>	how'd <i>how had</i>	how's <i>how has</i>	how'll <i>how will</i>	how'd <i>how would</i>

Match each set of words to the correct contraction. Write the letter of the matching word on the line.

- |                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| _____ 18. he is      | a. why's   |
| _____ 19. she had    | b. where's |
| _____ 20. it has     | c. how'll  |
| _____ 21. I would    | d. he's    |
| _____ 22. you will   | e. who's   |
| _____ 23. they had   | f. they'd  |
| _____ 24. that has   | g. she'd   |
| _____ 25. who is     | h. you'll  |
| _____ 26. what will  | i. that's  |
| _____ 27. when would | j. it's    |
| _____ 28. where is   | k. I'd     |
| _____ 29. why has    | l. when'd  |
| _____ 30. how will   | m. what'll |

Here are some negative contractions. Negative contractions are words that are put together with the word 'not.'

	<b>+ not</b>	<b>contraction</b>
<b>are</b>	are not	<i>aren't</i>
<b>can</b>	can not	<i>can't</i>
<b>could</b>	could not	<i>couldn't</i>
<b>did</b>	did not	<i>didn't</i>
<b>does</b>	does not	<i>doesn't</i>
<b>do</b>	do not	<i>don't</i>
<b>had</b>	had not	<i>hadn't</i>
<b>has</b>	has not	<i>hasn't</i>
<b>have</b>	have not	<i>haven't</i>
<b>might</b>	might not	<i>mightn't</i>
<b>must</b>	must not	<i>mustn't</i>
<b>should</b>	should not	<i>shouldn't</i>
<b>was</b>	was not	<i>wasn't</i>
<b>were</b>	were not	<i>weren't</i>
<b>will</b>	will not	<i>won't</i>
<b>would</b>	would not	<i>wouldn't</i>

Use the underlined words to form a contraction. Write the contraction on the line. The first one is done for you.

31. I am \_\_\_\_\_ **I'm** \_\_\_\_\_ not going to work today.
32. Pedro is not \_\_\_\_\_ playing soccer tonight.
33. We should have \_\_\_\_\_ packed a snack.
34. He would not \_\_\_\_\_ have known the answer.
35. When is \_\_\_\_\_ your flight?
36. They will \_\_\_\_\_ serve chicken for dinner.
37. Who would \_\_\_\_\_ want to drink orange juice at every meal of the day?
38. When did \_\_\_\_\_ she start working here?
39. Walter does not \_\_\_\_\_ like you using his tools.
40. Why is \_\_\_\_\_ that fan on?
41. I have \_\_\_\_\_ had enough of your attitude.
42. That is \_\_\_\_\_ my brother!
43. How would \_\_\_\_\_ she raise enough money for her trip?
44. Who is \_\_\_\_\_ driving that truck?
45. I will not \_\_\_\_\_ be able to come to your party.

**Answer Key**

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. present    | 6. present  |
| 2. past       | 7. past     |
| 3. future     | 8. present  |
| 4. future     | 9. present  |
| 5. present    | 10. future  |
| 11. a         | 15. a       |
| 12. c         | 16. b       |
| 13. b         | 17. a       |
| 14. c         |             |
| 18. d         | 25. e       |
| 19. g         | 26. m       |
| 20. j         | 27. l       |
| 21. k         | 28. b       |
| 22. h         | 29. a       |
| 23. f         | 30. c       |
| 24. i         |             |
| 31. I'm       | 39. doesn't |
| 32. isn't     | 40. why's   |
| 33. should've | 41. I've    |
| 34. wouldn't  | 42. that's  |
| 35. when's    | 43. how'd   |
| 36. they'll   | 44. who's   |
| 37. who'd     | 45. won't   |
| 38. when'd    |             |