



Grammar

My command of grammar is mostly consistent.
My control of tense and agreement is mostly secure

Secure
THERAPY

Breaking down the skill:

- I write with correct grammar most of the time, although I might make the occasional mistake.
- I can control tense and agreement most of the time but sometimes make the odd error.

Revision – Past, Present and Future

Past tense – this is used to describe an event that has already happened. It does not matter whether this was two minutes ago or two hundred years. If the event has happened, and has now finished, you need to use past tense.

Present tense - this is used to describe an event that is happening right now, making the reader feel very involved in the experience.

Future tense – this is used to describe events that will happen or might happen in the future.

TASK 1. Match the examples below to the correct tense.

I walk to the shops, carrying a large umbrella as it is raining.

I decided to take a trip to Cardiff as Wales was playing England at the rugby.

I am going to visit my grandmother tomorrow as she will need some help with her washing.

Shouting at the dog, I wonder what to do now.

“Don’t speak to me that way!” I yelled at the traffic warden.

Don’t forget to do your revision. It will really help you in your summer exams.

Past Tense

Present
Tense

Future Tense

TASK 2. The verbs from the sentences below are missing. Read the sentence and try to work out what action is needed. Use the tense clue in brackets to add the correct tense of the verb into the blank space. An example has been completed for you.

- 1) I cooked a lovely meal for my wife on Valentine's Day last week. **(Past)**
- 2) On our last holiday, we _____ to Ibiza in First Class seats. **(Past)**
- 3) When accepted for the 2016 Olympics, the athlete _____ at the chance to take part. **(Past)**
- 4) They are _____ carefully about the answer. **(Present)**
- 5) When asked for directions, he _____ them the right way. **(Present)**
- 6) "The rain _____ from the sky in buckets," says the weather man. **(Future)**
- 7) David _____ the telephone to the floor in anger. **(Past)**
- 8) The fire _____ long into the night. **(Present)**
- 9) I _____ carefully, trying to find the answer. **(Future)**
- 10) Walking slowly, I _____ carefully to avoid the cracks. **(Present)**
- 11) I _____ deep into the soil with the rusty shovel. **(Past)**
- 12) They _____ the film silently, engrossed in the story. **(Present)**
- 13) Every night, staring hungrily, the boy _____ what is for dinner. **(Future)**
- 14) Peter _____ the mountain, looking for fresh water. **(Past)**
- 15) I _____ asleep, dreaming of my summer holiday. **(Present)**
- 16) They _____ the test, getting 10/10. **(Past)**

If you are struggling, follow these steps:

- Start by working out the missing action. Which action makes the most sense with the rest of the sentence?
- Look at the tense clue. This will tell you how to modify the verb to make it fit the required tense. For example, if the action is 'walk,' add 'ed' to form past tense.

TASK 3. Revise the following rules for creating plurals (to show that there is more than one of something). In the middle column there are some examples of singular nouns that require this action to create the plural. Write the plural form in the space provided in the right-hand column. An example of each has been completed for you.

<p>Most singular nouns are made plural (to show there is more than one of them) by adding an 's' to the end of the word.</p>	<p>Bin Wood Radiator Comb Pillow Sheet _____ _____</p>	<p>Bins</p>
<p>However, following this rule would make some words hard to say. Instead, we need to add 'es' to create the plural form. Try it below!</p>	<p>Church Fox Witch Box Crutch Gas _____ _____</p>	<p>Churches</p>
<p>Some words ending in 'y' can be made plural by adding an 's' whereas others need to be changed for 'ies.' Try to add the correct ending:</p>	<p>Army Beauty Cherry City Story Party _____ _____</p>	<p>Armies</p>
<p>Words that end in a double 'ff' can usually be made plural by adding an 's.' However, many words ending in a single 'f' must be changed to 'ves.'</p>	<p>Calf Hoof Knife Shelf Scarf Loaf _____ _____</p>	<p>Calves</p>

TASK 4. Think of some additional singular nouns that fit into each category and write them on the blank lines in the middle column. Test a partner on how to create the plural form and get them to write the answers in the right-hand column.

~~I were excellent at grammar
when I were at school.~~



Look at the sentence above. Grammar Grandma isn't as clever as she thinks she is! Although she is using the right tense to describe what happened in the past, there is a problem with her use of 'I were.'

What is the problem?

The subject 'I' suggests there is only one person, but the verb 'were' should only be used if there is more than one subject.

If the subject of a sentence is singular (there is only one of them) the verb should also be singular -- e.g. *was*. However, if the subject is plural (there is more than one of them) the verb should also be plural -- e.g. *were*. You cannot get these mixed up!

TASK 6. The sentences below contain mistakes in agreement like the example from Grammar Grandma. Below each example, copy out the sentence correctly.

They was going to the beach.	
The kids is arguing again.	
The boys was well behaved.	
The bouquet were not delivered in time for Valentine's day.	
David and Jessica is late to class because they have detention.	
Some of the sheets was soaking with rain.	
Most of the pencils is sharp.	
All of the dinners was cold.	
The boy were nightmare!	

If you are struggling, start by circling the subject of the sentence, then circle the verb. Look at the subject – if it is singular (one thing on its own), the verb should be singular (is/was). If the subject is plural (more than one thing), the verb should also be plural (are/were). When you have worked out what is needed, write the sentence out correctly in the space provided.

TASK 7. For each of the following tasks, complete a paragraph of writing. Focus on accurate use of tense, plurals and agreement, following the instructions very carefully.

1) *Description – Describe a difficult journey you have made. As this will have already happened, you need to write in the past tense.*

2) *Exposition – Write about the importance of hard work in achieving success in life. This should reflect on what you think now so you need to write in the present tense.*

3) *Persuasion – Write a speech persuading people to conduct volunteer work for charities. You are speaking about how this will affect people's futures, so need to write in the future tense.*

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