

LESSON 14

Present, Past, and Future Tenses

Verbs can show when an action happens. This is called **tense**. Different verb tenses have different forms. Many present tense verbs end in *-s*. Form the past tense of many verbs by adding *-ed*. Add the helping verb *will* to a verb to show future tense.

Present Tense A fish jumps out of the pond.

Past Tense The boy pulled the fish in on a line.

Future Tense The boy will toss the fish back.

- When a verb ends with *e*, drop the *e* before adding *-ed*: *close closed*
- When a one-syllable verb ends with one vowel followed by one consonant, double the final consonant before adding *-ed*: *hop hopped*
- When a verb ends with a consonant followed by *y*, change the *y* to *i* before adding *-ed*: *cry cried*

A Tell the tense of the underlined verb in each sentence. Write *present*, *past*, or *future*.

1. A whale calls to other whales.
2. The whale will use the sound's echo.
3. A whale's tail moves up and down.
4. The whale will glide through the water.
5. The whale breathed through the blowhole on its head.
6. Ice trapped the whales in the bay.

B Choose the verb in () that completes each sentence. Use the tense that follows the sentence. Write the sentence.

1. Many different kinds of whales (lived, live) in the oceans. (present)
2. The gentle waves (carry, carried) the whales with them. (past)
3. You (will discover, discovered) gray whales in the North Pacific. (future)
4. Greenland whales (will measure, measure) up to 60 feet long. (present)
5. The size of a blue whale (surprised, will surprise) you. (future)
6. The humpback whale (uses, used) long flippers. (past)
7. Many humpback whales (stay, will stay) near the coast. (future)

C Choose a verb from the word bank to complete each sentence. Use each verb in the tense shown.

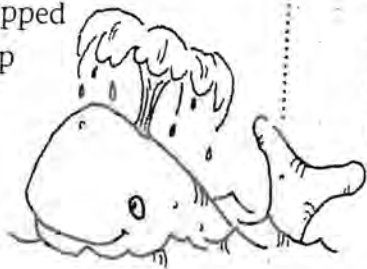
collect hurry provide tap travel

8. A baby whale ___ along near its mother. (past)
9. A mother whale gently ___ her baby's body. (past)
10. Warm waters ___ a nice home for the babies. (past)
11. The whales ___ to cold waters in summer. (present)
12. They ___ much food there. (future)

Test Preparation

✓ Write the letter of the verb that completes each sentence. Use the tense in ().

1. We _____ some whales off the coast. (past)
A view
B viewed
C will view
D views
2. A whale _____ its tail out of the water. (past)
A flips
B will flip
C flipped
D flipped
3. The whale _____ the water with its tail. (present)
A slaps
B slapping
C slapped
D slap
4. The whale's tail _____ very loud. (future)
A sound
B sounded
C will sound
D sounding
5. Sometimes whales _____ their heads through the water. (future)
A will poke
B poke
C poking
D pokes
6. The whales _____ with an unusual sound. (past)
A crying
B cried
C cryed
D cry



Review

✓ Tell the tense of the underlined verb in each sentence. Write *present*, *past*, or *future*.

1. Scientists classified dolphins as whales.
2. Dolphins will learn quickly.
3. People call a group of dolphins a school.
4. A school of dolphins followed a ship.
5. The animals turn flips in the ocean.

✓ Choose the verb in () that completes each sentence. Use the tense that follows the sentence. Write the sentence.

6. Dolphins (performed, perform) in the show. (past)
7. They (invent, will invent) their own tricks. (future)
8. A dolphin (tosses, tossed) a ball through a hoop. (past)
9. Two dolphins (jump, will jump) over a net. (present)
10. Dolphins (produce, will produce) whistles and clicks. (future)
11. The sounds (echo, echoed) off objects in the water. (present)
12. Dolphins' good vision (helps, helped) them too. (present)
13. The ancient Greeks (liked, like) dolphins. (past)
14. The people (painted, will paint) dolphins on their pottery. (past)
15. Sailors still (consider, will consider) dolphins good luck. (present)