

Vocabulary Power

me•te•or•ol•o•gist

[mē'tē•ō•rol'ə•jɪst] *n.*

A scientist who studies weather, winds, and the air around the earth.

Present Perfect and Past Perfect Tenses

There are three **perfect tenses**—present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect. The perfect tenses use the past participle with a form of the helping verb *have*.

Present Perfect Tense:

We **have watched** the sky all morning. (present tense of helping verb)

Past Perfect Tense:

We **had seen** the movie before. (past tense of helping verb)

A verb in the **present perfect tense** shows action that started to happen at some time before now. The action may continue into the present. A verb in the **past perfect tense** shows action that happened before a specific time in the past and has stopped.

This chart shows the difference between the simple tenses and the perfect tenses.

	Simple Tenses	Perfect Tenses
Present	Dry weather hurts farm crops.	Dry weather has hurt farm crops this year.
Past	Clouds gathered in the afternoon.	By 8:00 P.M., clouds had gathered .

Guided Practice

A. Identify the verb in each sentence. Tell whether each verb is in the present perfect tense or the past perfect tense.

Example: The meteorologist has predicted rain for Tuesday.
has predicted, present perfect

1. The heat wave has lasted for two weeks.
2. We have expected rain all week.
3. I have watered the garden every day.
4. By evening, rain had started to fall.
5. The heat wave had finally ended.

Independent Practice

B. Write the perfect tense verb in each numbered sentence. Write whether it is in the present perfect or past perfect tense.

Example: Evan had written one letter to Derek before the storm.
had written, past perfect

Dear Derek,

(6) I had planned to write you sooner. (7) I'm sure you have heard all about the hurricane. (8) We have been very busy since it passed through. We were ordered to evacuate our home before the storm. (9) When we returned, the wind had blown the roof off my clubhouse. (10) The doghouse and a section of fence had disappeared completely. (11) The wind had also ripped several branches from the maple trees. (12) We had boarded up our house, and it was fine. (13) We had really expected more damage. (14) According to the rain gauge, it had rained only five inches.

(15) Since we returned, the weather has been beautiful. (16) We have enjoyed being back home. (17) We have even enjoyed cleaning up the yard. (18) We had thought we might not see our house again. (19) We have started building Ginger a new house. (20) She has watched us every minute.

Please write soon.

Your friend,
Evan



Remember

that a verb in the present perfect tense shows action that started to happen before now and may be continuing. A verb in the past perfect tense shows action that happened before a specific time in the past.

Writing Connection

Writer's Craft: Strong Verbs Imagine that you are a news reporter telling about a summer storm. What might have happened during this storm? List some strong verbs that a news reporter could use. Then write a few sentences to report on the storm. Include some verbs in either the present perfect or the past perfect tense.

Future Perfect Tense

The **future perfect tense** is formed by adding the helping verbs *will have* to the past participle form of the main verb.

You know that the future tense shows action that will happen at a time to come. The future perfect tense shows action that will start and finish before a future time.

Future Tense	Future Perfect Tense
At 6:30 the farmer will watch the weather report.	By 7:00, the farmer will have watched the weather report.
I will water the garden this afternoon.	I will have watered the garden by supper time.

Guided Practice

A. Identify the verbs in these sentences. Tell whether each verb is in the future tense or the future perfect tense.

Example: The weather will have improved by the weekend.
will have improved, future perfect

- Lower temperatures will give us a welcome change.
- An air mass, or large body of air, will arrive from Canada.
- This air mass will have reached our area by midnight.
- By Thursday evening, those winds will have pushed out the hot air.
- The temperature will have dropped 20 degrees by Friday morning.
- The humidity, or amount of moisture in the air, will fall throughout the day Thursday.
- The winds will have calmed by Thursday evening.
- The chance of rain will have dropped by half.
- The sun will shine brightly over the weekend.
- The heat wave will have passed before Thursday evening.



Independent Practice

B. Write each sentence. Use the verb in the tense shown in parentheses after the sentence.

Example: Farmers (prepare) their fields for dry conditions in advance. (future perfect)
Farmers will have prepared their fields for dry conditions in advance.

11. It (rain) here tomorrow. (future)
12. The rain (start) by the middle of the afternoon. (future perfect)
13. Some neighborhoods (receive) more rain than others. (future)
14. Dark clouds (form) in the sky before dawn. (future perfect)
15. Water in the clouds (become) very heavy. (future)
16. Around noon, the first drops (fall). (future)
17. The water (reach) the earth as rain. (future)
18. The rain (stop) by the time school is out. (future perfect)
19. Soon the ground (soak) up the rain. (future perfect)
20. By 8:00 the sun (set). (future perfect)
21. I hope the weather (be) nice for our trip. (future)
22. This weekend a cold front (move) through. (future)
23. The air pressure (rise). (future)
24. By Saturday night, the air (cool) about twenty degrees. (future perfect)
25. By that time we (arrive) at our grandparents' house. (future perfect)



Remember

that a verb in the future perfect tense shows action that will start and finish before a specific time in the future.

Writing Connection



Writer's Journal: Writing Advice List some things that you have been told to do (or not to do) because they are good (or not good) for you.

Choose one item from your list, and write a paragraph of advice for classmates. Be persuasive. Explain what will happen in the future if someone does or does not follow your advice. Use at least one verb in the future perfect tense.

Sequence of Tenses

Use the verb **tense** that accurately shows the time of the verb's action.

Within a sentence or a paragraph, the verb tenses need to be in a sequence that makes the order of events clear. Here are some tips to remember:

- Think about the meaning of the sentence. What time or times are being described?
- Look at all the verbs in the sentence. If actions happen at different times, the verbs should be in different tenses.
- Be especially careful with perfect tense verbs. They are often used with verbs in other tenses. Choose the perfect tense verb that shows when the action happened in relation to other actions.

Example:

Incorrect: Reports **have promised** only rain, but a tornado **struck** during the night.

Correct: Reports **had promised** only rain, but a tornado **struck** during the night.

Guided Practice

A. Identify which verb tense in parentheses is correct.

Example: A hurricane (forms, had formed), and it grew rapidly.
had formed

1. Last night, the storm (strengthened, strengthens).
2. Meteorologists (hope, had hoped) that the hurricane would stay at sea, but it (changes, changed) direction.
3. Now the storm (crossed, has crossed) the Gulf of Mexico and is approaching Texas.
4. People along the Texas coast (have helped, had helped) one another as everyone (will prepare, prepares) for the storm.
5. After the storm, we learned that the winds (have reached, had reached) 100 miles per hour.

Independent Practice

B. Identify which verb tense in parentheses is correct. Rewrite the sentence, using the correct form.

6. We had feared a tornado even before the storm (breaks, broke).
7. Earlier this afternoon thunderclouds (darkened, have darkened) the sky.
8. Next (came, will have come) thunder, louder and louder.
9. Now a funnel-shaped cloud (formed, has formed) in the distance.
10. We look to see which way it (went, will go).
11. We watch, amazed, as the tornado (kicked, kicks) up a cloud of dust.
12. The funnel cloud (has been, will be) visible for ten minutes now.
13. In a moment we (will go, went) into the storm cellar.
14. We (added, add) the storm cellar last year.
15. A tornado (damages, damaged) a neighbor's house a month before we built our cellar.
16. People have called tornadoes "twisters" because the winds (turn, turned) in a circle.
17. Strange things (happened, have happened) during last year's tornadoes.
18. A boy said that he (has seen, had seen) a car fly past him.
19. We (stored, had stored) supplies in case a storm came.
20. You never (know, knew) when a tornado will strike.



Remember

that each verb tense tells about a specific time of action. Always make sure that you are choosing the correct tense for the time you have in mind. When you use several verbs, make sure that their tenses show the order of events.



Writing Connection

Technology With a partner, find a weather forecast on the Internet and a weather forecast in a newspaper. You and your partner can each write a summary of one forecast for the next day. Be sure to use the correct sequence of tenses. Check the weather report the next day, and see which forecast was more accurate.

Extra Practice

- A. Write each sentence, and underline each perfect tense verb. Write whether the tense of the verb is past perfect, present perfect, or future perfect.

pages 204–207

Example: Many areas have experienced droughts, or long periods of time with little or no rainfall.
Many areas have experienced droughts, or long periods of time with little or no rainfall.
present perfect

1. The Great Plains has been a productive farming area of the United States for many years.
2. The Great Plains has suffered many droughts since the early 1930s.
3. This region had been dry even before the droughts.
4. By 1934, topsoil had turned to dust.
5. Many farmers had lost their crops before the end of the drought.
6. In just a few years, the drought had destroyed many farms.
7. Ever since then, people have called that area the Dust Bowl.
8. Despite this nickname, the area has recovered from the disaster.
9. People have remembered that event.
10. Forecasters have compared recent droughts to that famous one.
11. However, none of the recent droughts has been as bad as the drought in the 1930s.
12. Still, some people have predicted another drought soon.
13. Many cities will have prepared for drought.
14. Some places have limited water usage in the dry months.
15. Other communities have increased education on water conservation.

 Remember

to use tenses in a sequence that makes sense.

For more activities with verb tenses, visit
 The Learning Site:

www.harcourtschool.com

B. Write each sentence, and underline each verb. Write whether the verb is in the future or the future perfect tense. *pages 206–207*

Example: By the end of September
By the end of Septembe,
future perfect

16. The days will become cooler.
17. Nights will have grown longer.
18. A few leaves will have changed colors.
19. Then other leaves will drop to the ground.
20. By November most trees will be bare.

C. Decide which verb tense in parentheses is correct. Rewrite the sentence, using the correct form.

pages 204–209

Example: Until the storm ends, we (had stayed, will stay) inside.
Until the storm ends, we will stay inside.

21. Before any raindrops fell, storm sirens (sound, had sounded).
22. The storm (drenched, will have drenched) our town soon.
23. Lightning (will have flashed, has flashed) overhead for the last ten minutes.
24. We hear thunder each time the lightning (strikes, had struck).
25. All day we (have wanted, want) to run outside with our dog.

Writing Connection

Real-Life Writing: Storm Safety Poster Suppose that you want to tell people how to be safe during a severe thunderstorm. In a small group, discuss some ideas for making a poster that explains what to do during lightning and heavy rain. List at least three safety tips. Use a sheet of paper to make a draft of the poster. Be sure your poster can be read quickly and easily.

DID YOU KNOW?

To measure the distance between you and a bolt of lightning, count the number of seconds between the lightning flash and the thunder that follows. Then divide the number of seconds by five to find out how many miles away it is. For example, five seconds is one mile, and ten seconds is two miles.

STANDARDIZED
TEST PREP

TIP Before you begin, read the directions carefully to see what kinds of mistakes you are expected to find. After you read a test item, mark only one letter for your answer.

Chapter Review

Look for mistakes in verb usage in the sentences below. When you find a mistake, write the letter of the line containing the mistake. Some sentences may not have any mistakes. If there is no mistake, choose the letter beside *No mistakes*.

- 1 **A** Miguel and Kim learned about *Sputnik*
B by the time they had finished
C their Internet research on satellites.
D (*No mistakes*)
- 2 **J** The United States has planned to be
K the first country to launch a satellite, but the
L Soviet Union launched one on October 4, 1957.
M (*No mistakes*)
- 3 **A** Since the 1950s, satellites had watched
B the world's weather. They continue to give
C scientists and farmers helpful information.
D (*No mistakes*)
- 4 **J** By the beginning of the 1990s,
K thousands of satellites had been launched
L to watch the weather.
M (*No mistakes*)
- 5 **A** Satellites have taken
B accurate pictures of the earth
C and had sent them back to scientists.
D (*No mistakes*)
- 6 **J** Jaime had not found the astronomy book
K when Mrs. Po asked for it. She will have wanted it
L to teach us about the stars.
M (*No mistakes*)



For additional test
preparation, visit
The Learning Site:

www.harcourtschool.com

Searching Online

The Internet offers exciting ways to find facts about a subject. By **searching online** you can research information from many sources. Learning important skills can make your online search successful.

A **search engine** is the tool you use to locate information. There are several search engines on the Internet. A librarian may be able to help you select a good search engine, or you might want to try more than one search engine. Use the search engine to find websites on a topic. A website is a group of linked screens, or “pages.” When you get information from a Web page, make a note of the page’s name and Web address.

All search engines have a search box. You type one or more **keywords** in the search box. Search engines then look for sites that have your keywords. To expand or narrow your search, click on the search engine’s help button to find information about how to search. Suppose you want to find information about tornadoes designed for students your age. Here is how you might search.

YOUR KEYWORDS

kids tornadoes

SEARCH

YOUR RESULTS

Websites on

- tornadoes and other storms
- books for children about weather
- kids’ weather pages
- ...more

The top matches for your search will appear first. Click on a site that interests you. Use the *Back* button at the top of the screen to return to the list and choose another site.

YOUR TURN

SEARCH ONLINE With a partner, do an online search.

First, choose a topic about the weather, such as a type of weather or weather in a certain place. List possible keywords to use. Enter the keywords in a search engine. How many websites did the search engine find?

If necessary, narrow or expand your search. Then choose the two sites that are the most interesting or helpful. Record the Web address and examples of the kind of information on each site.

TIP Remember to make a list of keywords before you search online. Use the search engine’s *help* feature to find out how to expand or narrow your search.