

## Use Past Tense Verbs in Conversational Speech

### **Instructions:**

Welcome to your no-prep therapy kit for working past tense verbs (both regular and irregular). By the end of this training, client will correctly use past tense verbs (irregular and regular) with at least 80% accuracy during unstructured conversational speech when discussing past events.

### **How to Use this Kit:**

1. **Print this packet** and put it in the client's folder or notebook.
2. **Work on the first phase** in therapy.
3. When the client has mastered that phase, **take out that page and send it home** as homework.
4. **Work on the next phase** in therapy while the parents are reinforcing the previous phase at home.

### **Therapy Overview:**

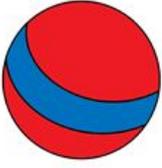
1. **Regular Past Tense Verbs in Short Sentences:** Client will correctly use regular past tense verbs (by adding “-ed” to the end of a verb) in short sentences with at least 80% accuracy when answering “what happened” about a past event or picture.
2. **Irregular Past Tense Verbs in Short Sentences:** Client will correctly use irregular past tense verbs (by changing the verb to the correct past tense form) in short sentences with at least 80% accuracy when answering “what happened” about a past event or picture.
3. **Mixed Past Tense Verbs when Answering Questions:** Client will correctly use regular and irregular past tense verbs when answering questions about a story or picture with at least 80% accuracy.
4. **Mixed Past Tense Verbs in Structured Conversation:** Client will correctly use regular and irregular past tense verbs when providing answers to open-ended questions or prompts (such as “tell me about your last birthday party”) with at least 80% accuracy.
5. **Mixed Past Tense Verbs in Unstructured Conversation:** Client will correctly use past tense verbs (irregular and regular) with at least 80% accuracy during unstructured conversational speech when discussing past events.

### **Additional Resources:**

- Once the client is correctly using past tense verbs, you can encourage the client to remember to do this throughout the day as well. You can provide check-ins as necessary and train teachers and caretakers to provide reminders as well.
- Check out the additional training on this page: <https://members.slpsolution.com/past-tense-verbs/>

## Phase 1: Regular Past Tense Verbs in Short Sentences

**Instructions:** When we're talking about something that has already happened, we can add "-ed" to the end of the verb, to show that it was in the past. For example "jump" becomes "jumped". Look at the images below and describe what happened in the past tense.



They found a ball.



What happened?  
They \_\_\_ (play) catch.



She has a hair brush.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (brush) her hair.



He had some paints.



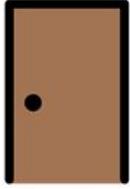
What happened?  
He \_\_\_ (paint) a picture.



His shirt was dirty.



What happened?  
He \_\_\_ (clean) it.



The door is shut.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (open) it.



There was a stop sign.



What happened?  
He \_\_\_ (stop).



They went to the movies.



What happened?  
They \_\_\_ (watch) a movie.



They found some ingredients.



What happened?  
They \_\_\_ (bake) a cake.

**Homework:**

Time to practice this skill at home! You can help reinforce this skill at home by practicing this page. The more you practice this skill, the easier it will get. Place a checkmark in one box below for every time you practice this page. Try to work on it for five minutes, once or twice daily.


## Phase 2: Irregular Past Tense Verbs in Short Sentences

**Instructions:** Some verbs are what we call “irregular”. This means that instead of adding “-ed” on the end, we have to change the whole word to show that it happened in the past. For example, “catch” becomes “caught”. Look at the images below and describe what happened in the past tense.



She is running.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (fall).



Here's a cup.



What happened?  
It \_\_\_ (break).



He has some blocks.



What happened?  
He \_\_\_ (build) a tower.



She is standing.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (sit) down.



She is sleeping.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (wake) up.



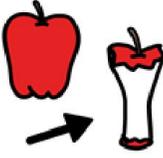
Here's a bird.



What happened?  
It \_\_\_ (fly) away.



He has an apple.



What happened?  
He \_\_\_ (eat) it.



Here's a glass of water.



What happened?  
She \_\_\_ (drink) it.

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### Phase 3: Mixed Past Tense Verbs when Answering Questions

**Instructions:** When we talk about things that have already happened, we can change our verbs to the past tense. For some verbs, we add “-ed” to the end of the word to show that it happened in the past (such as, “jumped”). For irregular past tense verbs, we have to change the whole word (such as, “caught”). Read the paragraph below (or have someone read it to you). Then, answer the questions below using the correct past tense in your answers.



Jill’s alarm clock doesn’t go off at the usual time. Instead, it rings 10 minutes before she is supposed to get on the bus. Jill races to the bathroom and brushes her teeth. Next, she combs her hair and throws on some clothes. As she comes down the stairs, she hears the bus honking. She knows she won’t have enough time to get everything she needs and get outside. As she picks up her backpack and grabs a muffin, the bus drives away. Jill eats her muffin while she rides her bike to school. When she gets to school, she locks up her bike and runs to her classroom. She slides into her seat just as the bell rings to start class. She lets out a big sigh of relief.

**Why did Jill run late for school?**

**What did Jill do in the bathroom?**

**What did Jill do to her hair?**

**What happened as Jill came down the stairs?**

**What happened with the bus?**

**What did Jill do while she rode her bike?**

**What did Jill do with her bike once she got to school?**

**What happened as Jill got to her seat?**

**What did Jill do at the very end of the story?**

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