

Past, present and future tense

Mrs. Maneli is teaching the children about **tenses**. There are three tenses we learn about: **past**, **present** and **future**.

Past tense means the event has already **happened**, **present** tense means it is **happening** now and **future** tense means it **will happen**. We use time words to help us write in the correct tense. We also change the tense of the verbs.

1 Here are words to help you when writing in different tenses.

Past	Present	Future
He was eating a banana. He ate a banana. She played with a ball. She was playing with a ball. The monkeys were swinging in the trees. Yesterday..., Last week..., Before..., Earlier...	He is eating a banana. She is playing with a ball. The monkeys are swinging in the trees. Now..., At the moment...	He will eat a banana. She will play with a ball. The monkeys will swing in the trees. Tomorrow..., Next week..., Next month...

Past, present and future tense



Present tense:

Lerato is swimming in the dam.

Past tense:

Yesterday, Lerato swam in the dam.

Future tense:

Tomorrow, Lerato will swim in the dam.



The verb **swimming** changes to **swam** in the past tense and **will swim** in the future tense. **Yesterday** and **tomorrow** are time words telling you when.

Now write what is happening in the pictures below using the past, present and future tense.



Present tense:

Past tense:

Future tense:



Present tense:

Past tense:

Future tense:

Writing

Uses present, past and future tenses correctly.

CAPS
Grade 2 Term 3