



Using appropriate tense

CAPS: Grade 6, Term 3

Writing & Presenting

Sentence level work:

Uses an appropriate tense and co-ordinates sentences with 'and' and 'but'

Note

Subject-verb concord

Every sentence has a subject, a verb and an object. The subject is the person or animal. The verb is the action that this person or animal is doing. **For a sentence to make sense, the subject has to agree with the verb.**

When we write sentences in the past, present or future tense, we either have to change the participle (word before the verb) or the verb itself to make sure a sentence makes sense. E.g.

Past: The fluffy dog **chewed** the biscuits.

Present: The fluffy dog **chews** the biscuits.

Future: The fluffy dog **will chew** the biscuits.



Activity 1

Themba's friend has written a paragraph for homework but he has muddled the tenses.



Lizards

Lizards is reptiles. Most lizards will live in tree or on the ground. Lizards were small, cold-blooded creatures and has a long tail, four leg and toes. Desert lizards was usually camouflage for protection. Chameleons can also changed colour to blend into their background.



① Can you help him to re-write the paragraph so it is in the present tense?

Activity 2

Note

Future perfect tense

If we wanted to say that an action will take place at some point in the future, we would use **will** before the verb.

Future perfect tense is something that will happen in the future before something else happens in the future.

E.g. This time tomorrow, my gran **will have** baked my birthday cake.

Conjunctions

Conjunctions are words that are used to join two shorter sentences or clauses together.

E.g. **and, but, so because, however, that** and **while**.

Help Lerato to choose the correct words to form sentences in the future perfect tense. Write the sentences below.

Example

By next week, I **will have** (write) two exams. *becomes*

By next week, I **will have written** two exams.

① You will be (read) a story by eight o'clock tonight.

② This time next week, I will be (fly) to see my family in KwaZulu-Natal.



③ Next year, my teacher will have (teach) Grade 6 for ten years at the same school.

④ On Saturday morning, I will be (dress) in my soccer kit and will have (eat) before practice.

Activity 3

Use the future perfect tense to write down three things that you will do over the weekend.

Hint: *Start your paragraph with 'Before Sunday night I will have...'
*Use conjunctions in your sentences to make them longer.

Teacher Tip

At the start of the lesson, generate a list of words that change when we change between past – present – future tense e.g. am/is/was/were/being/will be etc. Explain that these are auxiliary verbs.

At the end of the lesson display sentences with the incorrect tenses. Ask children to correct them in pairs.

As an extension activity for the more able children, ask them to change a paragraph from their favourite book from past to future perfect tense.

