Verb Tenses: Present, Past, and Future

The tense of a verb tells when something happens. A verb in the present tense shows action that is happening now. A verb in the past tense shows action that has already happened. Verbs in the past tense often end in -ed. A verb in the future tense shows action that will happen. Use the helping verb will to form verbs in the future tense.

**Present Tense:** Emily works on a ranch.
**Past Tense:** Emily worked on a ranch.
**Future Tense:** Emily will work on a ranch.

A Write Present, Past, or Future to tell the tense of each underlined verb.

1. Emily lives in the United States.
2. Last summer she visited a ranch in Argentina.
3. She learned about many different animals.
4. She wants to learn more about horses.
5. Next year, her whole family will visit the ranch.

Write the verb in each sentence. Circle the verbs in the past tense. Underline the verbs in the future tense.

7. She brushed their coats each morning.
8. Then she trimmed their hooves.
9. She braids their manes and tails each week.
10. Soon she will get a new horse.
Rewrite the sentences by changing each underlined verb to the past tense.

1. Juan rounds up the cattle.
2. He moves them from one pasture to another.
3. Sometimes he yells to make them run.
4. Some cattle refuse to move.
5. Then he will scream even louder.

Rewrite each sentence twice. First, write the sentence by changing the underlined verb to the past tense. Then write the sentence by changing the underlined verb to the future tense.

7. All her relatives like her cooking.
8. She washes the dishes after lunch.
9. After lunch, Karen walks around the ranch.
10. In July, her friend Luz visits.
11. Luz enjoys her friend’s cooking.
Review and Assess

Choose the correct tense of the verb shown in (). Write the sentence.

1. Today many people (work, worked) on farms in Argentina.
2. We (call, will call) the citizens of this country Argentines.
3. Now many farmers (produced, produce) wheat and corn.
4. Next year, farmers (raised, will raise) more cattle than ever before.
5. Last year more than 35 million people (lived, will live) in Argentina.

Write the letter of the word or words that complete each sentence.

6. Yesterday I _____ a ranch.
   A visit           C visited
   B will visit     D visits

7. My sister _____ on the ranch every day.
   A play           C player
   B plays         D playing

8. Next week I _____ my cousin in Toledo.
   A calls         C called
   B will calls    D will call

9. She always _____ my calls.
   A enjoy        C enjoys
   B enjoying     D will enjoy

10. My parents _____ to see her last week.
    A hoping      C hopes
    B hoped       D will hope