

Verb Tense Quiz

VERB TENSE: IRREGULAR VERBS

Place correct past tense or past participle verb in blanks.

When the game show contestant (learn) _____ that she had (choose) _____ the box with only a penny in it, she was badly (shake). She (begin) _____ to cry, and the game show host, for a minute, was (freeze) _____ with fear. Then he (take) _____ her hand and (say) _____, "You have not (get) _____ to the end of the line yet, Mrs. Waterby. Cheer up." When she (learn) _____ she was going to be (give) _____ one more chance, Mrs. Waterby (stop) _____ crying. At the host's signal, a tray was (bring) _____ onto the stage and (place) _____ in front of Mrs. Waterby. On the tray (sit) _____ three shells. One shell, the host (tell) _____ her, (cover) _____ the key to a new Lincoln Continental. Mrs. Waterby (be) _____ to choose the shell she (think) _____ (have) _____ the key under it. There (be) _____ a long pause, and she (give) _____ her answer, "Number three." The host (lift) _____ up the third shell; the key (be) _____ underneath. Mrs. Waterby (be) _____ ecstatic. She (dance) _____ about the stage just as she had been (instruct) _____ to do if she (win) _____. Her husband (run) _____ upon stage and (embrace) _____ her. They had (realize) _____ the great American dream: they had (get) _____ something for nothing.

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Identify the tense of each underlined verb. Choose from the following list, and place the appropriate letter in the space provided.

- A. present
- B. present perfect
- C. past
- D. past perfect
- E. future
- F. future perfect

1. The children play in the dirty streets every day. _____
2. How long has James been in jail? _____
3. He has assured us that he is going to pay the bill. _____
4. After lunch they went to the art show to see Alice's painting. _____
5. Sherry has worked at Starbuck's since April. _____
6. John will be six years old next month. _____
7. If the general's new offensive succeeds, we shall have won the war by fall. _____
8. Before going into politics, he had had little success at anything. _____
9. Mrs. Jones will write the party invitations later today. _____
10. Dr. Baker said that he had lost his watch at the Braves game. _____
11. Allison has lived in an apartment for six months. _____
12. Next month, Mr. and Mrs. Jamison will have been married for forty years. _____
13. Jason eats breakfast in the student center each morning. _____
14. Residents of Oak Park, Illinois, pay high property taxes. _____
15. Much to his aunt's surprise, Sam sat down at her piano and played Chopin. _____