

Past and Present Tense

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."		
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		
"What do you think it is?"		
"We saw them!"		

Can you turn these verbs from the present tense into the past tense? The first one has been done for you.

Present	Past
it belongs	it belonged
he lies	
she thinks	
we hope	
I wonder	



Now see if you can turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense.

Guster the dragon lay in the mouth of his cave.

Guster felt like this every autumn.

He scratched his back and scraped his shoulders.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

Past and Present Tense Answers

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		✓
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."	✓	
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		✓
"What do you think it is?"		✓
"We saw them!"	✓	

Can you turn these verbs from the present tense into the past tense? The first one has been done for you.

Present	Past
it belongs	it belonged
he lies	he lay
she thinks	she thought
we hope	we hoped
I wonder	I wondered

Now see if you can turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense.

Guster the dragon lay in the mouth of his cave.

Guster the dragon lies in the mouth of his cave.

Guster felt like this every autumn.

Guster feels like this every autumn.

He scratched his back and scraped his shoulders.

He scratches his back and scrapes his shoulders.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

This is a mountain dragon trick which keeps them safe from human eyes.

Past and Present Tense

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."		
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		
"What do you think it is?"		
"We saw them!"		

Can you turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense?

Guster the dragon lay in the mouth of his cave.

Guster felt like this every autumn.

He scratched his back and scraped his shoulders.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

Now see if you can write this whole paragraph in the past tense.

It is a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangles the treetops. Birds swoop, hares run and lizards scuttle. Guster and Redbreath's cave is at the top of the very tall, very pointy Wyrmostooth Mountain. In the valley far below, the lake rocks this way and that. The sunlight stretches along its surface like a diving board.

Past and Present Tense Answers

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		✓
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."	✓	
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		✓
"What do you think it is?"		✓
"We saw them!"	✓	

Can you turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense?

Guster the dragon lay in the mouth of his cave.

Guster the dragon lies in the mouth of his cave.

Guster felt like this every autumn.

Guster feels like this every autumn.

He scratched his back and scraped his shoulders.

He scratches his back and scrapes his shoulders.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

This is a mountain dragon trick which keeps them safe from human eyes.

Now see if you can write this whole paragraph in the past tense.

It is a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangles the treetops. Birds swoop, hares run and lizards scuttle. Guster and Redbreath's cave is at the top of the very tall, very pointy Wurmstooth Mountain. In the valley far below, the lake rocks this way and that. The sunlight stretches along its surface like a diving board.

It was a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangled the treetops. Birds swooped, hares ran and lizards scuttled. Guster and Redbreath's cave was at the top of the very tall, very pointy Wurmstooth Mountain. In the valley far below, the lake rocked this way and that. The sunlight stretched along its surface like a diving board.

Past and Present Tense

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."		
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		
"What do you think it is?"		
"We saw them!"		

Can you turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense?

It was a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangled the treetops.

Birds swooped, hares ran and lizards scuttled.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

Guster had seen pictures of these beings in his mother's ancient books so he knew at once what they were: humans.

Now see if you can write this whole paragraph in the past tense.

Guster loves Redbreath's tales. He stills his restless feet, folds his impatient wings and settles down to listen. With a deep breath and a clack of her jaws, Redbreath begins, "For more than a thousand years, humans have waged war on dragonkind. With their blades, humans topple our forests; with their bricks, they stifle our earth; with their fumes, they choke our air."

Past and Present Tense Answers

Tick the boxes to show whether these sentences use the past or the present tense.

	Past	Present
"Miranda, you're alive!"		✓
"When I was hunting yesterday, the woods were crawling with humans."	✓	
"Look, Ma, one of the machines is back."		✓
"What do you think it is?"		✓
"We saw them!"	✓	

Can you turn these whole sentences from the past tense into the present tense?

It was a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangled the treetops.

It is a crisp morning and an impish breeze tangles the treetops.

Birds swooped, hares ran and lizards scuttled.

Birds swoop, hares run and lizards scuttle.

This was a mountain dragon trick which kept them safe from human eyes.

This is a mountain dragon trick which keeps them safe from human eyes.

Guster had seen pictures of these beings in his mother's ancient books so he knew at once what they were: humans.

Guster sees pictures of these beings in his mother's ancient books so he knows at once what they are: humans.

Now see if you can write this whole paragraph in the past tense.

Guster loves Redbreath's tales. He stills his restless feet, folds his impatient wings and settles down to listen. With a deep breath and a clack of her jaws, Redbreath begins, "For more than a thousand years, humans have waged war on dragonkind. With their blades, humans topple our forests; with their bricks, they stifle our earth; with their fumes, they choke our air."

Guster loved Redbreath's tales. He stilled his restless feet, folded his impatient wings and settled down to listen. With a deep breath and a clack of her jaws, Redbreath began, "For more than a thousand years, humans had waged war on dragonkind. With their blades, humans toppled our forests; with their bricks, they stifled our earth; with their fumes, they choked our air."