

Time past

Verbs are words that have *tenses*.

Tenses are to do with time – the *past*, *present*, and *future*.

a Look at the entry for the word **scrawl** (*verb*).

scrawl *verb* (**scrawls**, **scrawling**, **scrawled**)

to scrawl something is to write it in a hurried or careless way

Circle which form of the verb – **scrawl**, **scrawls**, **scrawling** or **scrawled** – you would use to talk about the past (e.g. a game that has already happened).

b What is the past tense of each of the following verbs?

walk **jump** **pick** **climb**

What is the rule for turning them into the past tense?

c Find the past tense of the verbs below. In what way is the spelling of the past tense of these verbs different?

skip **hop** **drag** **ram** **stir**

d How do you spell the past tense of these verbs?

hurry **worry** **bully** **cry** **reply**

What is different about them?

e What about the past tense of these verbs that end in -e?

whine **decide** **explode** **care** **provide**

When the past tense of a verb ends in *-d* or *-ed*, you call it a *regular* verb because it follows a rule. Many verbs are *irregular*.

f Put these verbs into the past tense, and say what you notice about them:

weep **creep** **sleep** **keep** **feel** **mean** **know**
blow **fly** **draw** **throw**