

Irregular Verbs (in Past, Present & Future)

The past and past participle for most verbs in English are formed by the simple addition of *-ed* (*walked, pretended, unveiled*). However, a number of verbs have irregular forms, most of which are different for past and past participle. In particular, be careful to use the correct past participle form of irregular verbs.

Listed here are the principal parts for some commonly troublesome irregular verbs. Check your dictionary for a more complete listing.

<i>Present Tense</i>	<i>Past Tense</i>	<i>Past Participle</i>
am, is, are	was, were	been
begin	began	begun
break	broke	broken
choose	chose	chosen
come	came	come
deal	dealt	dealt
fall	fell	fallen
get	got	gotten
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grow	grew	grown
know	knew	known
rise	rose	risen
speak	spoke	spoken
take	took	taken
write	wrote	written

The following exercise will help familiarize you with these common irregular verbs. When revising your writing in the future, pay particular attention to irregular forms and be sure to use the correct form.

Exercise: Fill in each blank with the appropriate tense form for each irregular verb.

1. When I woke up at 5:30, the sun had already _____ (rise).
2. Two years ago, I _____ (know) a man who worked for Microsoft.
3. I _____ (be) happy to see my uncle at the family reunion.
4. When I entered the theater, the movie had already _____ (begin).
5. I liked both cars, but I _____ (choose) the red one.
6. The boss told me to _____ (get) out of the office.
7. Last summer, I _____ (go) to Japan.
8. A friend in Tokyo _____ (give) me a tour of the city.
9. Some plants _____ (grow) better in direct sunlight.
10. The president _____ (speak) after the secretary had _____ (give) his speech.
11. When I arrived, most of the guests had _____ (come).
12. My camera _____ (break) yesterday.
13. I will go out tonight after I have _____ (write) my essay.
14. John _____ (take) his test last Monday.
15. My friend told me that she had _____ (get) an 'A' in English.
16. When the president died, the employees _____ (deal) with the news very well.
17. Yesterday the temperature _____ (fall) to 10 degrees.
18. The meeting _____ (begin) ten minutes ago.
19. Mary will _____ (take) two classes next semester.
20. When I returned from vacation, I noticed that my plants had _____ (grow).