

Tense consistency is vital when writing, as it ensures that your writing makes sense and flows nicely. It is when the tense (past, present, or future tense) stays the same throughout the text, unless you change the tense intentionally for certain effect. Let's talk about the different tenses. Past tense is when you are talking about something that has happened previously, e.g., was, had, ran, etc. Present tense is when you are talking about something that is happening right now, e.g., has, is, runs, etc. Future tense is when you are talking about something that will happen (in the future), e.g., will, will have, will run, etc. Future tense is uncommon in writing - we usually use past and present tense. An example of tense consistency in a sentence would be, "I had a pencil, but I broke it." This has a consistent use of past tense (had, broke), and doesn't differ from it in the sentence. An example of tense inconsistency (a tense that isn't consistent) would be, "I had a pencil, but I break it." You can see that this doesn't make much sense, since it is using an inconsistent tense (had, break).



Activity

Look at the sentences below and rewrite them in your exercise book with the correct tenses:

1- I ran to the shop and am running back yesterday.

2- I was eating ice cream, but the sun melt it.

3- Jeff had a dog, but it will get run over.

