Let’s Look at Verbs

1 Verbs

- Verbs are doing and being words.
  
  I am     I sing     I watch

- A verb family name is called an infinitive.
  
  to be     to sing     to watch

- Verbs can be singular or plural.
  
  I am     he sings    they watch

- Verbs have tenses which tell us the time the action took place.
  
  present   past   future

Complete the verb table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infinitive</th>
<th>Present simple</th>
<th>Past simple</th>
<th>Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>to look</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to smile</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>He</td>
<td>He</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to follow</td>
<td>It</td>
<td>It</td>
<td>It</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Present tenses

Present tense verbs tell us what happens or is happening now.

- The present simple tense.
  
  The children walk to school. He plants a tree.

- The present progressive tense is made up of the present tense of the verb to be and an ing ending.
  
  The children are walking to school. He is planting a tree.
A Change these present simple tense sentences to the present progressive tense.
1 The goats chew the grass. ________________________________
2 He reads his book. ________________________________
3 I clean my teeth. ________________________________

B Change these present progressive tense sentences to the present simple tense.
1 We are searching for our cat. ________________________________
2 My friend is not feeling very well. ________________________________
3 The wind is howling down the chimney. ________________________________

3 Past Tenses – simple and progressive

Past tense verbs tell us what happened in the past.

• The past simple tense is usually made by adding ed/d to the infinitive.

  infinitive +ed +d
  to chatter chattered
  to smile smiled

Some verbs do not follow this rule. They are irregular verbs.

  present tense    past tense
  he is            he was
  I write          I wrote
  he brings        she brought

• The past progressive tense is made up of the past tense of the verb to be and an ing ending.

  My friends were watching the race.
  It was raining.