

CHAPTER 9: Present and Past Tenses

Answer Key

PRACTICE 1

1. Every writer (want, wants) to seem clever and to be talked about, according to George Orwell.
2. Most human beings (like, likes) to be remembered.
3. Also, a beautiful or moving moment (become, becomes) immortal with writing.
4. A good writer (attempt, attempts) to show others the beauty of certain places.
5. People also (write, writes) to create a historical record of events.
6. Some writers (hope, hopes) to persuade others with their words.
7. Literary works (need, needs) to document political events.
8. George Orwell's book *Animal Farm* (show, shows) certain injustices, and it (criticize, criticizes) Soviet-style communism.
9. Some lies (need, needs) to be exposed.
10. Art (have, has) a relationship with politics.

PRACTICE 2

1. Her full name is Joanne Katherine Rowling. She is from Bristol, England, and she is the child of middle-class parents. Currently, she is over forty years old.
2. Rowling's books are about a child named Harry Potter. The child has no parents. His cruel aunt and uncle are his guardians. They have their own child, whom they spoil, but they treat Harry horribly. Harry has a tiny bedroom under the stairs, and he is extremely unhappy.
3. As the story progresses, Harry goes to a special private school. He has two close friends in the new school, and he is able to use his special powers to fight evil.
4. The *Harry Potter* novels follow a literary tradition. Many fairy tales are about an orphan who overcomes obstacles. Often, cruel relatives or stepparents are in charge of the orphan. The child has no option but to grow up quickly and escape from the evil surrogate family.

PRACTICE 3

1. Do
2. Are
3. Do
4. Is
5. Do
6. Is
7. Are
8. Do
9. Is

PRACTICE 4

A.

1. In *The Lord of the Rings*, a little hobbit *make* s friends with a wizard.

Negative Form: does not make; Contraction: doesn't make

2. He *live* s in a small house.

Negative Form: does not live; Contraction: doesn't live

3. His best friend, Sam, *eat* s a lot of greasy food.

Negative Form: does not eat; Contraction: doesn't eat

4. They *leave* _____ their village to go on a journey.

Negative Form: do not leave; Contraction: don't leave

5. Frodo *own* s a special ring.

Negative Form: does not own; Contraction: doesn't own

6. They *stay* _____ up late every night.

Negative Form: do not stay; Contraction: don't stay

7. The hobbits *meet* _____ some elves.

Negative Form: do not meet; Contraction: don't meet

B.

8. Their journey *is* is dangerous.

Negative Form: is not; Contraction: isn't

9. The hobbits are *are* brave.

Negative Form: are not; Contraction: aren't

10. J. R. R. Tolkien's books are *are* expensive.

Negative Form: are not; Contraction: aren't

PRACTICE 5

sells

1. Four Harlequin romance novels ~~sell~~ *are* every second.

2. Romance novels are translated into many languages, but most of the writers ~~be~~ *are* from the United States, Canada, or Britain.

follows

3. A typical romance novel ~~follow~~ *follows* a formula.

does

4. Initially, the heroine ~~do~~ *does* not like the hero, and she struggles against her growing attraction.

- does*
5. Romance novels ~~does~~ not have sad endings.
Are
6. ~~Be~~ chick lit and romance novels the same thing?
does
7. In so-called “chick lit,” the heroine ~~do~~ not always fall in love.
does
8. Why ~~do~~ Heather Graham write romance novels?
expresses
9. According to Graham, each novel ~~express~~ a universal human emotion.
provides
10. Stories about exciting relationships ~~provides~~ readers with an escape from reality.

PRACTICE 6

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. hope | <u>hoped</u> |
| 2. try | <u>tried</u> |
| 3. stay | <u>stay</u> |
| 4. employ | <u>employed</u> |
| 5. study | <u>studied</u> |
| 6. plan | <u>plan</u> |
| 7. rain | <u>rained</u> |
| 8. rest | <u>rested</u> |
| 9. deny | <u>denied</u> |
| 10. ban | <u>banned</u> |

PRACTICE 7

1. created
2. described; aimed
3. wanted
4. changed
5. agreed
6. earned
7. battled
8. fired
9. accepted
10. signed
11. watched; received
12. offered

PRACTICE 8

1. In 1833, the first American tabloid, the *New York Sun*, (hit) hit the streets. Boys (sell) sold the tabloids on street corners. Journalists (give) gave readers stories about political scandals, murders, and other crimes.
2. In the 1952, a new tabloid (rise) rose to prominence. An Italian publisher, Generoso Pope, Jr., (buy) bought a newspaper called the *Enquirer*. It (be) was full of horse-racing tips.
3. Pope (pay) paid about \$70,000 for the *Enquirer*. The paper's focus (change) changed from horse racing to bizarre and gory stories about cannibalism and other crimes. The *Enquirer's* staff (make) made up incredible stories. Readers usually (think) thought that the stories were true.

PRACTICE 9

1. In the early 1950s, there were many hoax stories in the *National Enquirer*. However, in the late 1950s, that situation changed. Each journalist was careful to include true stories about celebrities. The friends and employees of the famous were often greedy, and they were ready to sell information to the tabloids.
2. Some popular celebrities were on the front covers of the tabloids each week. For example, during the 1960s, the love life of Elizabeth Taylor was front-page news. Her many marriages were the fodder for gossip columnists. Often, reporters were disguised as bellhops or police officers. By wearing disguises, they were able to get close to movie stars. For example, a photographer was able to take photographs of Taylor by posing as a waiter.

PRACTICE 10

1. wasn't
2. didn't eat
3. didn't make
4. didn't speak
5. didn't lie
6. didn't do
7. didn't wash
8. weren't
9. didn't do
10. didn't open

PRACTICE 11

- wasn't
1. J. R. R. Tolkien ~~don't~~ be born in England.

- did not remain*
2. He ~~did not remained~~ in South Africa.
- did not move*
3. When he ~~moved~~ to Birmingham, England?
- write*
4. Why did Tolkien ~~wrote~~ about hobbits?
- did not believe*
5. His friends ~~not believed~~ in the value of myths.
- didn't*
6. Tolkien ~~wasn't~~ agree with his friends.
- wasn't*
7. *The Lord of the Rings* ~~didn't~~ be popular at first.
- did the book become*
8. Why ~~the book became~~ popular ten years after its release?
- sell*
9. Why did the book ~~sold~~ more than 100 million copies?
- did* *vote*
10. When Amazon.com customers ~~voted~~ for *The Lord of the Rings* as the book of the millennium?

PRACTICE 12

- read*
1. Last year, I readed about an alien baby in a newspaper tabloid. Of course, I knew that the story was false, but I haved fun reading it. Hoax journalism is not new.
- cost*
In the nineteenth century, most respected newspapers costed six cents. However, “pulp fiction,” filled with sensational stories, selled for one penny. The penny newspapers was extremely popular and profitable.
- thought*
2. Some of America’s greatest writers thiked that pulp fiction was mediocre, but those same writers craved the large audiences that penny newspapers provided. Mark Twain, wrote for example, writed a story about a headless killer. The killer runned through the streets holding his wife’s scalp. Edgar Allan Poe also feeled curious about hoax stories. In 1844, he created a story about a giant balloon that could cross oceans. He see into the future because the first hot-air balloon crossed the ocean more than one hundred years later, in 1978.

3. One of the most widespread hoaxes involved “moon men.” In 1835, the *New York Sun* printed articles about the moon’s furry, winged creatures. According to the newspaper, Sir John Hershel, a respected astronomer, built a giant, powerful telescope. Each article was full of details about Hershel’s observations.

4. People was ready to believe the moon men stories. The articles haved enough facts to seem plausible. An astronomer named Hershel actually existed. Also, many citizens be worried about Halley’s comet, so they often looked at the skies. They soon realize that they should not believe everything in newspapers.

5. More recently, in 1999, newspapers and magazines reported dubious “facts” about the millennium bug. People buyed supplies and digged bomb shelters. They was scared of widespread power failures. The media contributed to the mass hysteria. Many people were amazed when nothing major happened on January 1, 2000.

PRACTICE 13

1. Amy Tan’s mother, Daisy, left an abusive husband in China and went to the United States. She had three daughters, but her husband did not let her take ~~none~~ of her daughters with her. Daisy married John Tan, and they had a daughter named Amy. Her parents did not have ~~no~~ other daughters, but they had two sons.

2. Amy’s mother did not want her daughter to make ~~no~~ mistakes. She pushed Amy to enter medical school, but Amy didn’t have ~~no~~ ambition to be a doctor. Amy rebelled and decided to study English instead. Amy also rebelled by moving to San Francisco so that she could be near her boyfriend. There wasn’t ~~no~~ reason for her to stay in Oakland.

3. Amy's relationship with her mother improved in later years. In 1987, they traveled to China together to meet Mrs. Tan's long-lost daughters. Amy's first novel, *The Joy Luck Club*, was inspired by her mother's life, and it became an international best-seller. Most reviewers didn't say ~~nothing~~ *anything; or said nothing* bad about the novel.

FINAL REVIEW

1. The Federal Anti-Obscenity Act ~~past~~ *passed* in 1873. After that, citizens ~~was~~ *were* not able to buy certain novels. For example, in 1915, the U.S. government did not ~~permitted~~ *permit* Americans to import James Joyce's classic novel *Ulysses*. Officials called the book obscene. Some activists ~~figh~~ *fought* the government, and in 1930, they ~~winned~~ *won* the right to publish the book in the United States. In 2000, the Modern Library ~~choosed~~ *chose* *Ulysses* as the best book of the twentieth century.

2. Between 1873 and 2000, school districts and libraries in the United States banned hundreds of novels for a variety of reasons. For example, in 1939, administrators at the St. Louis Public Library ~~stoped~~ *stopped* lending John Steinbeck's classic *The Grapes of Wrath* because they ~~thinke~~ *thought* that the novel's language was vulgar. In the 1960s, some people ~~goed~~ *went* to other countries to buy the American classic *The Catcher in the Rye* because many states banned the novel. In the 1990s, some officials didn't want to stock ~~no~~ *any* copies of Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* because they believed that the book portrayed African Americans in a negative way. Some people also disliked the portrayal of Shylock, a Jewish merchant, in Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice*. They ~~sayed~~ *said* that Shakespeare stereotyped certain members of society in his play.

3. Generally, book banners ~~wants~~ *want* to safeguard the values of their communities.

any; or they see no
They don't see ~~no~~ problem with book banning. Others *believe* believes that people should have
feel
the freedom to choose their own reading material. They ~~feels~~ feel that books give insight into
the social attitudes of different eras. Book banning is an emotional issue, and people will
continue to debate the subject.