

Present Tense

A verb is an action word. It tells what a person or thing is doing. When adding *-ing* to a verb to form the present tense, the rules are as follows.

- Verbs ending in a single vowel and a single consonant: double the last letter and add *-ing*. *Example: run = running*
- Verbs ending in e: drop the e and add *-ing*. *Example: make = making*
- Most other verbs require no change. *Example: drink = drinking*

A Add *-ing* to the verbs below.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. eat: _____ | 5. expose: _____ | 9. dig: _____ |
| 2. protect: _____ | 6. take: _____ | 10. swim: _____ |
| 3. lick: _____ | 7. consume: _____ | 11. stop: _____ |
| 4. try: _____ | 8. make: _____ | 12. put: _____ |

B Write these sentences correctly in your copybook.

- The echidna is **dig** a burrow.
- Consume** larvae and worms, the echidna is specially adapted to hunt its prey.
- In self-defence, the echidna curls into a ball, **expose** only its spines.
- The echidna is **swim** in the water.

Past Tense

When adding *-ed* to a verb to form the past tense, the rules are as follows.

- Verbs ending in a single vowel and a single consonant: double the last letter and add *-ed*. *Example: stop = stopped*
- Verbs ending in e: add *d*. *Example: consume = consumed*
- Most other verbs require no change. *Example: look = looked*

C Change the verbs below to form the past tense.

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. protect: _____ | 5. detect: _____ | 9. decide: _____ |
| 2. lick: _____ | 6. use: _____ | 10. hope: _____ |
| 3. hunt: _____ | 7. nurse: _____ | 11. skip: _____ |
| 4. stay: _____ | 8. expose: _____ | 12. skid: _____ |

D In your copybook, write these sentences correctly in the past tense.

- The echidna **protect** itself; it **curl** itself into a ball and **expose** its spines.
- The puggle **vacate** the pouch after eight to 12 weeks, but **stay** in the burrow for six months.
- The echidna **detect**, **hunt** and **consume** worms, larvae and termites.





Writing genre: Writing a recount

A newspaper report or article **recounts** a real-life event. Usually, it:

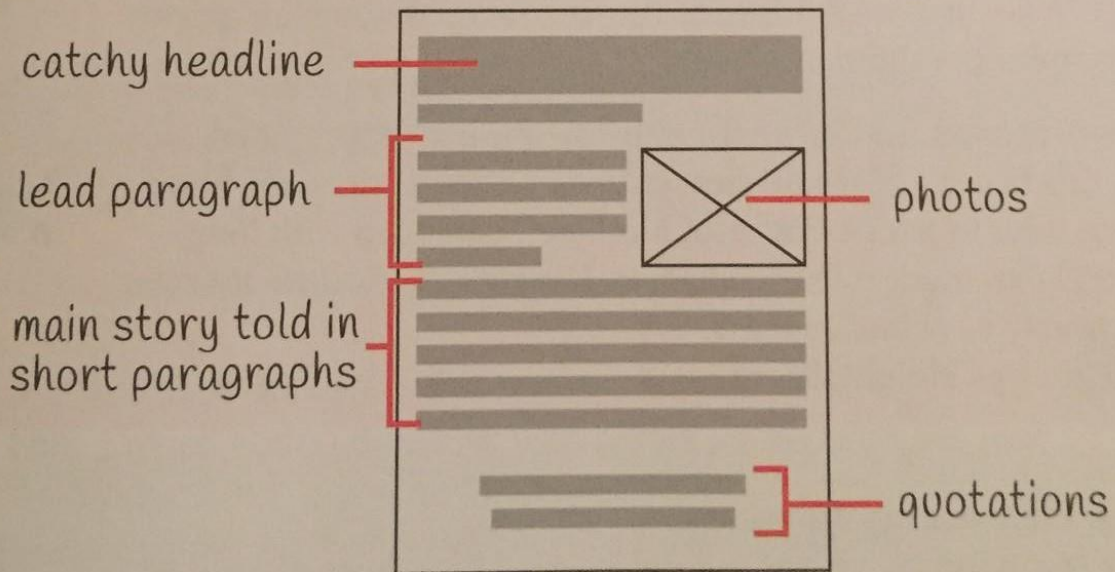
- Begins with a catchy headline, to grab the readers' attention
- Starts with a lead paragraph explaining who was involved, what happened, where and when it happened

It may:

- Have short paragraphs written in the past tense
- Be written in the past tense
- Include quotations from people who are part of the story
- Include photos

Write a newspaper article.

1. Think of something interesting that happened in your home, school or neighbourhood.
2. Use the layout guide to draft a recount for a newspaper about the event.



3. When you have finished, proofread your writing carefully.

-cian

The suffix *-cian* sounds like /shun/, as in 'magician'.
When *-cian* is added to a word, it usually means 'a person who is skilled in something' (for example, a magician is skilled in magic).

Insert the correct *-cian* words from the word box in the sentences below.

musician	beautician	mathematician	optician	physician
electrician	technician	paediatrician	magician	politician

- Mum called in the _____ to repair the socket for the television.
- At school we have a computer _____, who comes to repair the computers.
- John plays the piano and is a very talented _____.
- Tom went to the _____ for an eye test.
- The _____ was quick to work out the tricky multiplication sums.
- The _____ spoke to her client about the importance of good skincare.
- The _____ rang the ambulance and sent the sick person to hospital.
- The _____ examined the newborn baby.
- The _____ was elected to the Dáil in the election.
- Believe it or not, the _____ pulled a rabbit out of the hat!



Writing

Postcards

When you are away on holidays, writing postcards helps you to keep in touch with your friends at home. You write postcards:

- To let people see what the place you are visiting is like.
- To let people know that you are thinking of them.

Writing a postcard is like writing a short note. You don't need to write long sentences.

Example: Instead of writing 'I am having a lovely time,' you could write, 'Having a lovely time.'

Describe the weather and the scenery too!

You have won the Lotto and you are on the trip of a lifetime. Write a postcard to a friend describing this experience. Think about where in the world you might be. What experience would you really enjoy? Here are some ideas:

- Climbing a mountain in Nepal
- Riding an elephant in India
- Skiing in Austria
- Walking along the Great Wall of China
- Shopping in New York