



REGULAR / IRREGULAR VERBS

The English language uses both *regular* and *irregular* verbs. When forming the past tense or the present/past perfect tense of these verbs, we use different methods.

To form the past tense of a *regular* verb ending with a vowel (a, e, i, o, u), add a *d* to the word. To form the present/past perfect tense, add a *d* plus a helping verb (have, had, or has).

For example, the verb *share* ends with the vowel *e*.

share = present tense

shared (share + d) = past tense

had shared (had + share + d) = past perfect tense (*have* is the helping verb)

If the *regular* verb ends with a consonant, add *ed* for the past tense. Add *ed* plus a helping verb for the present/past perfect tense.

For example, the verb *pour* ends with the consonant *r*.

pour = present tense

poured (pour + ed) = past tense

have poured (have + pour + ed) = present perfect tense

(If you need help understanding tense, please ask a CWC instructor for a handout on definition of tense.)

Unlike *regular* verbs, *irregular* verbs do not follow a pattern. You must memorize them.

For example, the irregular verb *see* has three principal parts: see, saw, seen.

I see the stars= present tense

I saw the stars= past tense

I have seen the stars= present perfect tense

Below is a list of irregular verbs and a few tricky regular verbs that students often misuse. Cover the columns marked *past* and *present/past perfect*, leaving the *present* column visible. Now read the verbs in the *present* column and see if you know their *past* and *present/past perfect* forms. If not, keep memorizing!

PRESENT	PAST	PRESENT/PAST PERFECT (with has, had, have)
arise	arose	arisen
awake	awakened	awakened
bear	bore	borne
become	became	become

begin
bend
bid
bite
blow
break
bring
burst
buy
build
can
catch
choose
cling
come
cost
creep
dig
do
drag
drug
draw
drink
drive
eat
fall
feel
fight
find`
fit
forget
forgive
forsake
freeze
get
give
go
grow
hang (execute)
hang (picture)
have
hear
hide
hold
hurt
keep
know
lay (put or place)

began
bent
bade
bit
blew
broke
brought
burst
bought
built
could
caught
chose
clung
came
cost
crept
dug
did
dragged
drugged
drew
drank
drove
ate
fell
felt
fought
found
fit
forgot
forgave
forsook
froze
got
gave
went
grew
hanged
hung
had
heard
hid
held
hurt
kept
knew
laid

begun
bent
bidden
bitten
blown
broken
brought
burst
bought
built
could
caught
chosen
clung
come
cost
crept
dug
done
dragged
drugged
drawn
drunk
driven
eaten
fallen
felt
fought
found
fit
forgotten
forgiven
forsaken
frozen
gotten, got
given
gone
grown
hanged
hung
had
heard
hidden
held
hurt
kept
known
laid

lead
learn
leave
lend
let
lie (recline)
lose
mean
meet
pay
raise (lift)
read
ride
ring
rise (move upward)
run
say
see
sell
set
shake
shine (give light)
shine (polish)
shoot
show
shrink
sing
sink
sit
slay
sleep
sneak
speak
spend
spin
stand
steal
sting
strew
strike
strive
swear
swim
swing
take
teach
tear
tell

led
learned
left
lent
let
lay
lost
meant
met
paid
raised
read
rode
rang
rose
ran
said
saw
sold
set
shook
shone
shined
shot
showed
shrank
sang
sank
sat
slew
slept
sneaked
spoke
spent
spun
stood
stole
stung
strewed
struck
strove
swore
swam
swung
took
taught
tore
told

led
learned
left
lent
let
lain
lost
meant
met
paid
raised
read
ridden
rung
risen
run
said
seen
sold
set
shaken
shone
shined
shot
shown
shrunk
sung
sunk
sat
slain
slept
sneaked
spoken
spent
spun
stood
stolen
stung
strewed
struck
striven
sworn
swum
swung
taken
taught
torn
told

think
throw
tread
wake
wear
weave
win
wring
write

thought
threw
trod
waked
wore
wove
won
wrung
wrote

thought
thrown
trodden
waked
worn
woven
won
wring
written