

Bgcse english past papers Reference

bgcse english past papers are invaluable resources for students preparing for their Grade 11 and Grade 12 English examinations in Bangladesh. Accessing past exam papers allows learners to familiarize themselves with the exam format, understand the types of questions frequently asked, and practice effectively to improve their performance. Whether you're a student aiming for top grades or a teacher guiding your students, leveraging these past papers can significantly boost your confidence and readiness. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the importance of BGCSE English past papers, how to utilize them effectively, and where to find authentic resources to aid your exam preparation.

Understanding the Significance of BGCSE English Past Papers

Why Are Past Papers Essential?

Past papers serve as a mirror to the actual exam, providing insights into the structure, question patterns, and marking schemes. They help students:

- Gain familiarity with the exam format
- Identify commonly tested topics and question types
- Practice time management skills
- Build confidence by simulating real exam conditions
- Assess their strengths and weaknesses for targeted revision

How Do Past Papers Help in Effective Preparation?

Studying past papers allows students to:

- Practice writing responses within the allotted time
- Get accustomed to the language and style of questions
- Understand the marking scheme to focus on scoring points effectively
- Identify recurring themes and topics in the English syllabus
- Reduce exam anxiety through repeated practice

Types of BGCSE English Past Papers Available

Different Exam Components Covered

BGCSE English exams typically comprise various components, each with its own types of questions. Past papers are available for:

- **English First Paper (Paper 1):** Comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, and language use
- **English Second Paper (Paper 2):** Essay writing, comprehension passages, and language exercises
- **Listening and Speaking Tests:** Although often conducted separately, practice materials may include sample questions

Sample Past Paper Topics

Past papers often feature questions on:

- Comprehension passages from diverse topics like social issues, literature, or current affairs
- Grammar exercises including tenses, prepositions, and sentence restructuring
- Vocabulary development and word usage
- Essay topics such as education, environment, technology, and personal experiences
- Letter and report writing

How to Use BGCSE English Past Papers Effectively

Creating a Study Schedule

To maximize the benefits of past papers, students should incorporate them into a well-structured study plan:

- Allocate specific days for practicing different sections
- Set realistic time limits to simulate actual exam conditions
- Review completed papers critically to identify mistakes and areas for improvement

Practicing Strategically

Effective utilization involves:

- Starting with easier papers to build confidence
- Gradually moving to more challenging or recent papers
- Attempting full-length papers to develop stamina and discipline

- Comparing answers with model solutions or marking schemes

Analyzing Mistakes and Feedback

Post-practice review is crucial:

- Highlight errors in comprehension, grammar, or content
- Understand the marking scheme to see how marks are awarded
- Seek feedback from teachers or peers to gain different perspectives

Where to Find Authentic BGCSE English Past Papers

Official Sources

The most reliable place to access past papers is through official channels:

- [Bangladesh Technical Education Board \(BTEB\) Official Website](#)
- School or college administration portals
- Department of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) resources

Online Educational Platforms and Resources

Numerous educational websites and forums offer free or paid access to past papers:

- [BGCSE REVISION.com](#)
- [ExamResource.com](#)
- Educational Facebook groups and online communities dedicated to BGCSE preparation

Printed and Digital Booklets

Many publishers produce compiled booklets containing past papers along with model answers:

- Buy from local bookstores or online marketplaces like Daraz Bangladesh
- Download PDF versions from educational resource websites

Tips for Maximizing Your Preparation with Past Papers

Consistency is Key

Regular practice of past papers helps reinforce learning and build exam confidence. Dedicate specific weekly hours to practicing different components.

Simulate Real Exam Conditions

Attempt past papers in a quiet environment with strict time limits to mimic the actual exam setting. This approach helps reduce anxiety and improves time management.

Combine Past Papers with Other Resources

While past papers are essential, complement them with:

- Textbook exercises and notes
- Model answers and examiner reports
- Vocabulary and grammar practice books

Seek Guidance and Feedback

Engage teachers or tutors to review your answers. Constructive feedback helps you understand your mistakes and improve your writing skills.

Conclusion

Preparing for the BGCSE English exam can be a daunting task, but utilizing past papers effectively can make a significant difference. These resources not only familiarize students with the exam format but also enhance writing, comprehension, and analytical skills. By incorporating past papers into a disciplined study plan, practicing under exam-like conditions, and seeking constructive feedback, students can boost their confidence and aim for excellent results. Remember to access authentic resources from official or reputable sources, and stay consistent in your preparation. With dedicated effort and strategic practice, achieving success in BGCSE English is well within your reach.

Keywords: BGCSE English past papers, BGCSE exam preparation, BGCSE model papers, Bangladesh GCE past papers, English exam practice, BGCSE syllabus, past paper resources

BGCSE English Past Papers: A Comprehensive Guide to Exam Preparation and Success

Preparing for the Belize General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) English exam can be

a daunting task for students aiming to excel. The availability and effective utilization of BGCSE English past papers are instrumental in mastering the exam content, understanding question patterns, and building confidence. This detailed review explores every facet of these past papers?from their significance and structure to how students can leverage them for optimal results.

Understanding the Importance of BGCSE English Past Papers

Why Past Papers Are Essential

- Familiarity with Exam Format: Past papers provide insight into the structure of the exam, including sections, question types, and time allocation.
- Practice and Reinforcement: Regular practice helps reinforce language skills, comprehension, and analytical thinking.
- Identifying Common Themes and Questions: Repeated topics and question styles can be recognized and prepared for effectively.
- Building Confidence: Rehearsing with past papers reduces exam anxiety by making students comfortable with the testing environment.

How Past Papers Help in Effective Study Planning

- Targeted Revision: Students can identify weak areas by practicing past papers and focus on improving those sections.
- Time Management Skills: Simulating exam conditions with past papers aids in developing efficient time allocation strategies.
- Self-Assessment: Comparing answers against mark schemes allows learners to evaluate their performance and adjust their study plan accordingly.

Structure and Content of BGCSE English Past Papers

Exam Components and Their Significance

The BGCSE English exam typically comprises several sections designed to assess different language skills:

- Section A: Comprehension (Reading and Understanding)
- Usually involves reading passages followed by answering questions.

- Tests ability to grasp main ideas, infer meaning, and analyze texts.
- Section B: Composition and Creative Writing
 - Includes essay writing, story creation, or personal narratives.
 - Assesses language expression, coherence, vocabulary, and grammatical accuracy.
- Section C: Grammar and Language Use
 - Focuses on sentence structure, punctuation, vocabulary, and grammatical rules.
 - Often involves filling in blanks, sentence restructuring, or multiple-choice questions.
- Section D: Listening and Speaking (Optional in some cases)
 - May include oral components or listening comprehension exercises, depending on the year.

Types of Questions Found in Past Papers

- Multiple-choice questions (MCQs)
- Short answer questions
- Long-form essay prompts
- Cloze tests and sentence transformations
- Summary and note-making exercises

Variations Across Years

While the core structure remains consistent, specific questions vary annually, offering fresh challenges each year but maintaining predictable patterns.

Accessing BGCSE English Past Papers

Sources and Availability

- Official Education Department: The Belize Ministry of Education often releases past papers for public use.
- Educational Websites and Forums: Several online platforms compile and digitize past exam papers for free or paid access.
- School Libraries and Teachers: Many schools retain archives of past papers for student practice.
- Booklets and Revision Guides: Publishers produce guides containing past questions with model answers.

Digital Resources and Platforms

- Online repositories such as BGCSE Past Papers websites.
- Educational apps offering practice tests based on past papers.
- PDF downloads from educational blogs or government portals.

Tips for Effective Access and Use

- Always ensure the papers are from reliable sources to avoid outdated or incorrect questions.
- Download entire sets to simulate exam conditions thoroughly.
- Use answer keys or marking schemes to gauge your performance accurately.

Strategies for Using Past Papers Effectively

Creating a Study Schedule

- Allocate specific days for practicing different sections.
- Prioritize areas where you consistently struggle.
- Mix practice sessions with timed exercises to improve speed.

Practicing Under Exam Conditions

- Set strict time limits matching the actual exam.
- Avoid distractions to simulate real test scenarios.
- Attempt full-length papers to build stamina and endurance.

Analyzing Performance and Feedback

- Use marking schemes to evaluate answers critically.
- Identify recurring mistakes and focus on correcting them.
- Track progress over multiple practice sessions.

Incorporating Past Papers into Your Study Routine

- Use them as warm-up exercises before studying new material.
- Review mistakes thoroughly and understand the rationale behind correct answers.
- Combine past paper practice with other revision methods like group discussions or tutoring.

Key Tips for Mastering BGCSE English Using Past Papers

- Start Early: Begin practicing well before the exam date to cover all sections comprehensively.
- Focus on Weak Areas: Use past papers to identify and improve on your weaker skills.
- Refine Time Management: Practice completing papers within the allocated time to avoid last-minute rushes.
- Develop Vocabulary and Grammar: Supplement past paper practice with reading and vocabulary-building exercises.
- Practice Writing Regularly: Use past paper prompts for daily writing exercises to enhance fluency and coherence.
- Simulate Exam Conditions: Periodically undertake full mock exams under timed, distraction-free settings.
- Review and Reflect: After each practice, assess your answers critically and note areas for improvement.

Common Challenges and How to Overcome Them

- Difficulty Understanding Passages: Improve reading comprehension through regular reading of diverse texts, including newspapers, novels, and essays.
- Time Pressure: Practice under timed conditions to increase speed without sacrificing accuracy.
- Grammar Mistakes: Utilize grammar workbooks alongside past papers to solidify rules.
- Writing Anxiety: Build confidence through consistent practice and seek feedback from teachers or peers.

Conclusion: The Value of Past Papers in Achieving BGCSE English

Success

Mastering the BGCSE English exam hinges significantly on consistent practice, strategic preparation, and familiarity with the exam format—all of which are facilitated by BGCSE English past papers. These papers serve as invaluable tools, offering realistic practice, clarifying question patterns, and providing a benchmark for student progress. When integrated into a disciplined study plan, past papers empower students to approach their exams with confidence, clarity, and competence.

In summary, students aiming for top scores should prioritize obtaining authentic past papers, utilize them diligently, and combine their practice with comprehensive language development activities. With dedication and strategic use of past papers, achieving excellence in BGCSE English is well within reach.

Question Where can I find BGCSE English past papers for practice? You can access BGCSE English past papers on the official Botswana Examinations Council (BEC) website, educational resource websites, or through school libraries and teachers who provide exam preparation materials. **Answer** How can practicing BGCSE English past papers help improve my exam performance? Practicing past papers helps familiarize you with the exam format, improves time management, identifies common question types, and enhances your understanding of key topics, leading to better performance. Are BGCSE English past papers from previous years still relevant for current exams? Yes, past papers remain relevant as they reflect the exam style and frequently tested topics. However, it's important to also study current syllabi and recent materials to stay updated. What are some effective strategies for answering BGCSE English past paper questions? Effective strategies include carefully reading questions, planning your answers, practicing essay writing, reviewing grammar and vocabulary, and time-managing to complete all sections within the time limit. Can I get marked schemes or model answers for BGCSE English past papers? Yes, many educational resources and teachers provide marking schemes or model answers to help students understand how to score high marks in the exam. How frequently are BGCSE English past papers updated or released? Past papers are typically released annually after exams have been completed, but the availability may vary. Always check the official BEC website for the most recent and past papers. Are there online platforms offering interactive practice for BGCSE English based on past papers? Yes, several educational websites and online platforms provide interactive quizzes, mock exams, and practice tests based on BGCSE English past papers to help students prepare effectively.

Related keywords: BGCSE English exam questions, BGCSE English revision, BGCSE English practice papers, BGCSE English syllabus, BGCSE English sample papers, BGCSE English marking schemes, BGCSE English exam tips, BGCSE English grade boundaries, BGCSE English question papers, BGCSE English study guides

Paragraph using past perfect tense

Introduction: Understanding the Paragraph Using Past Perfect Tense

Paragraph using past perfect tense is an essential element of English grammar that helps writers and speakers convey actions or states that were completed before another point in the past. Mastering how to craft such paragraphs enhances clarity, coherence, and the overall quality of your writing. Whether you're composing academic essays, storytelling, or professional reports, understanding the proper use of past perfect tense within paragraphs enables you to narrate events in a chronological and logical manner.

The past perfect tense is often overlooked by learners but is crucial for expressing sequences of past events, emphasizing the earlier action, and establishing clear timelines. This article provides an in-depth exploration of how to construct effective paragraphs using past perfect tense, including grammatical rules, examples, common mistakes, and practical tips for writing with precision and clarity.

What Is the Past Perfect Tense?

Definition and Usage

The past perfect tense describes an action that was completed before another action or time in the past. It is formed with the auxiliary verb "had" followed by the past participle of the main verb.

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + had + past participle (e.g., She had finished her homework.)
- Negative: Subject + had not (hadn't) + past participle (e.g., They hadn't arrived yet.)
- Interrogative: Had + subject + past participle? (e.g., Had you seen that movie?)

Primary uses include:

- Indicating an action completed before a specific point in the past.
- Showing cause-and-effect relationships between different past events.
- Narrating stories or histories with a clear sequence.

Examples of Past Perfect Tense

- She had already left when I arrived.
- They had completed the project before the deadline.
- By the time the meeting started, he had prepared all the documents.
- We had lived in that city for ten years before moving abroad.

Constructing a Paragraph Using Past Perfect Tense

1. Planning Your Narrative or Explanation

Before writing a paragraph in past perfect tense, it is vital to plan the sequence of events. Identify which actions occurred first and which followed. This planning ensures logical flow and clarity.

Steps to plan:

- List the key past events you want to include.
- Arrange them chronologically, noting which happened first.
- Decide where to use past perfect tense to emphasize the earlier actions.

2. Using Past Perfect to Clarify Time Relationships

The past perfect sets the background for a story or explanation, establishing what had happened before another past event. It helps avoid confusion about the sequence.

Example:

After she had finished her work, she went out for a walk.

In this sentence, "had finished" clearly indicates that her work was completed before she went out.

3. Combining Past Perfect with Simple Past

Typically, a paragraph using past perfect tense includes a mixture of past perfect and simple past to depict the sequence of events.

Example:

They had already eaten dinner when we arrived. We decided to wait until they finished.

Here, "had already eaten" is past perfect, happening before "we arrived," which is simple past.

4. Structuring the Paragraph Effectively

To craft a well-organized paragraph using past perfect tense, follow this structure:

- Topic Sentence: Introduce the main idea or event.
- Supporting Sentences: Use past perfect to describe actions completed before the main event.
- Additional Details: Include context or consequences, often using simple past or other tenses.
- Concluding Sentence: Summarize or reflect on the sequence.

Example Paragraph:

Before the company launched its new product, the marketing team had conducted extensive research. They had analyzed customer feedback, studied competitors, and tested various advertisement strategies. By the time the campaign started, they had already identified the target audience and tailored their messaging accordingly. This preparation contributed significantly to the campaign's success.

Common Mistakes in Using Past Perfect in Paragraphs

Understanding common errors can help you avoid pitfalls and improve your writing.

1. Overusing Past Perfect

Using past perfect unnecessarily can clutter your writing. Reserve its use for actions that clearly occurred before other past actions.

Incorrect:

- She had went to the store and bought groceries. (Incorrect form: "had went" should be "had gone.")

Correct:

- She went to the store and bought groceries.

2. Confusing Past Perfect with Past Simple

Mixing these tenses without clarity can confuse the reader about the sequence of events.

Incorrect:

- I had breakfast, then I went to school.

Better:

- I had had breakfast before I went to school. (Use past perfect for the first action.)

3. Omitting the Past Perfect When Needed

Failing to use past perfect when necessary can distort the timeline.

Example:

- She arrived after he had left. (Correct)
- She arrived after he left. (Possible but less clear about the sequence)

Practical Tips for Writing Effective Paragraphs Using Past Perfect Tense

- Identify the timeline: Clearly determine which actions occurred first.
- Use past perfect for earlier actions: Employ it to set the background or sequence.
- Combine with simple past: Use simple past for subsequent actions.
- Maintain consistency: Keep verb tenses consistent to avoid confusion.
- Use time markers: Words like "already," "before," "by the time," "when," help clarify the sequence.

Examples of Effective Paragraphs

Example 1: Narrative of an Event

By the time the guests arrived, she had already prepared all the decorations. She had decorated the entire house, set up the tables, and arranged the flowers. When her friends knocked on the door, everything was ready, and she welcomed them with a smile. Her meticulous planning had paid off, making the celebration memorable.

Example 2: Historical Explanation

The explorers had discovered the island months before the scientific team arrived. They had documented the flora and fauna, set up temporary camps, and collected samples. When the researchers finally reached the site, they had a wealth of data to analyze, which contributed to groundbreaking ecological studies.

SEO Optimization Tips for Writing About Paragraphs Using Past Perfect Tense

To ensure your article reaches a wider audience, incorporate relevant SEO strategies:

- Use keywords naturally throughout the article, such as "past perfect tense," "how to write a paragraph using past perfect," "grammar tips for past perfect," and "examples of past perfect tense."
- Include descriptive headings with keywords.
- Maintain a clear and logical structure, making it easy for search engines to index your content.
- Use relevant internal and external links to authoritative grammar resources.
- Optimize meta descriptions and image alt texts if applicable.

Conclusion: Mastering Paragraphs Using Past Perfect Tense

Crafting well-structured paragraphs using past perfect tense is a vital skill for effective storytelling, academic writing, and professional communication. By understanding the grammatical rules, recognizing how to sequence events logically, and avoiding common mistakes, writers can produce clear, coherent, and engaging narratives. Remember to plan your narrative carefully, use past perfect to set the background, and combine it seamlessly with other tenses for smooth flow.

Practicing these techniques will enhance your command of English grammar and elevate your writing to a more professional level. Whether you're recounting past experiences, explaining historical events, or narrating stories, mastering the paragraph using past perfect tense will enable you to communicate with precision and clarity.

Start implementing these tips today and see your writing transform into compelling, well-structured narratives that captivate your audience!

Paragraph Using Past Perfect Tense

The past perfect tense, a fundamental aspect of English grammar, has long been an essential tool for writers and speakers aiming to express actions that had been completed before another past event. Its nuanced function allows for clarity and precision in storytelling, historical recounting, and detailed descriptions. This tense provides a way to establish a clear sequence of events, making narratives more coherent and engaging. Over the years, the use of the past perfect tense has

evolved, influencing literature, journalism, academic writing, and everyday communication. In this article, we will explore the intricacies of the past perfect tense, its formation, usage, common pitfalls, and effective strategies for mastering it.

Understanding the Past Perfect Tense

Definition and Basic Structure

The past perfect tense is used to describe an action that had occurred before another action or point in the past. It is formed by combining the auxiliary verb *had* with the past participle of the main verb.

Structure:

- Affirmative: Subject + *had* + past participle (e.g., She *had finished* her homework.)
- Negative: Subject + *had not* (*hadn't*) + past participle (e.g., They *hadn't arrived* yet.)
- Interrogative: *Had* + subject + past participle? (e.g., *Had you seen* that movie?)

Formation Rules and Examples

The formation of the past perfect is straightforward but requires attention to verb forms. Regular verbs form the past participle by adding *-ed*, whereas irregular verbs have unique past participle forms.

Verb Type	Example Sentence	Past Participle
Regular	I had walked to the park before it rained.	walked
Irregular	She had written several letters before noon.	written

Examples:

- They *had left* the house when I arrived.
- She *had already eaten* when the guests came.
- We *had never seen* such a beautiful sunset before that day.

Common Uses of the Past Perfect Tense

Expressing Completed Actions Before a Past Point

The primary use of the past perfect is to specify that an action was completed before another past event.

Example:

- By the time the movie started, we had already bought the tickets.

In Reported Speech and Indirect Statements

The past perfect is often used when reporting speech, especially when the original statement involved a past perfect tense.

Example:

- She said she had finished her project before the deadline.

In Conditional Sentences

Past perfect is common in third conditional sentences, indicating hypothetical situations in the past.

Example:

- If I had known about the traffic, I would have left earlier.

To Show Cause and Effect in Past Narratives

It helps to clarify cause-and-effect relationships in stories.

Example:

- He had forgotten his umbrella, so he got soaked.

Advantages of Using the Past Perfect Tense

Using the past perfect tense effectively enhances communication by adding clarity and depth. Here

are some notable advantages:

- Clarifies sequence: It helps differentiate between two past actions, establishing which occurred first.
- Adds depth to storytelling: Creates a layered narrative, giving context to events.
- Improves coherence: Assists in maintaining logical flow in complex sentences and narratives.
- Enables precise reporting: Vital in academic and journalistic contexts for accurate recounting of events.

Challenges and Common Mistakes

Overuse or Misuse of the Past Perfect

One common error is overusing the past perfect where simple past would suffice, leading to clunky sentences.

Example of overuse:

- Incorrect: She had gone to the store, and then she had bought groceries.
- Correct: She went to the store and then bought groceries.

Confusing Past Perfect with Other Tenses

Learners often confuse the past perfect with the simple past or past continuous, leading to grammatical inaccuracies.

Incorrect:

- I had saw him yesterday.
- Correct: I saw him yesterday.

Tip: Remember that "had" + past participle is past perfect; "saw" is simple past.

Misapplication in Conditional Sentences

Using the wrong tense in conditionals can distort meaning.

Incorrect:

- If she had studied, she would pass the exam.
- Correct: If she had studied, she would have passed the exam.

Strategies to Master the Past Perfect Tense

Practice with Timeline Exercises

Creating timelines of events can help visualize the sequence and reinforce correct tense usage.

Tip: Map out events and identify which happened first, then practice forming sentences accordingly.

Engage in Reading and Analysis

Reading literature, news articles, and historical accounts that employ the past perfect can improve understanding and intuition.

Exercise: Highlight sentences with past perfect and analyze their function.

Writing and Revising

Regularly practice writing stories or recounts involving past events. Review and revise to ensure correct tense usage.

Use Grammar Tools and Resources

Leverage online grammar checkers, tutorials, and exercises dedicated to past perfect tense.

Examples in Literature and Media

Many authors and speakers have utilized the past perfect to craft compelling narratives.

Literary Examples:

- In Charles Dickens' works, past perfect often appears to set historical context.
- In memoirs, authors frequently use past perfect to recount prior experiences.

Media and Journalism:

- News reports often employ the past perfect when describing events leading up to a recent

incident.

Conclusion

The past perfect tense, though seemingly simple in structure, plays a crucial role in conveying complex sequences of past actions. Its correct application enhances clarity, storytelling depth, and grammatical precision. While it can pose challenges for learners, consistent practice, mindful analysis, and contextual reading can significantly improve mastery. As language users continue to refine their understanding of this tense, their ability to narrate, report, and analyze past events with nuance and accuracy will undoubtedly strengthen. Embracing the past perfect as a vital grammatical tool opens up richer ways to communicate the layered tapestry of human experiences and histories.

In summary, mastering the past perfect tense involves understanding its formation, recognizing its primary functions, avoiding common pitfalls, and applying it effectively in various contexts. Whether in academic writing, storytelling, or everyday conversation, the past perfect remains a powerful means to articulate the sequence and significance of past events with clarity and sophistication.

Question What is the past perfect tense used for in a paragraph? The past perfect tense is used in a paragraph to show that an action was completed before another past action or point in time. How can I identify a paragraph that uses the past perfect tense? Look for verbs that are in the form of had + past participle, which indicate actions completed before other past events within the paragraph. Why is it important to use past perfect tense correctly in a paragraph? Using past perfect correctly helps clarify the sequence of events, making the timeline of actions clear and improving the coherence of the paragraph. Can you give an example of a paragraph using the past perfect tense? Sure. 'She had finished her homework before her friends arrived. By the time I called, she had already left the house.' What are common mistakes to avoid when using past perfect tense in a paragraph? Common mistakes include using the past perfect with simple past instead of when it's necessary, or omitting 'had' and just using the past participle. How does the past perfect tense improve storytelling in a paragraph? It provides clarity on the sequence of events, helping the reader understand what happened first and how events are connected chronologically. Is it necessary to use past perfect tense in all past narratives? No, it's only necessary when you want to emphasize that one past action occurred before another past action. How do I change a simple past sentence into a past perfect sentence? Add 'had' before the past participle of the verb. For example, 'She finished her work' becomes 'She had finished her work.' What are some signal words that indicate the use of past perfect in a paragraph? Words like 'before', 'by the time', 'already', and 'when' often signal the need for past perfect tense. Can past perfect tense be used in both formal and informal writing within a paragraph? Yes, past perfect tense can be used in both contexts to clarify the sequence of events, although it is more common in formal writing.

Related keywords: past perfect tense, paragraph writing, grammatical structure, writing tips, tense usage, English grammar, sentence construction, language learning, writing skills, tense consistency

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