

# Irregular Past Tense Verbs

## Guided Discussion

**Prior to targeting irregular past tense verbs, the student should be familiar with both tense and verbs. If not, refer to the sections in this book on regular past tense verbs and tense to increase familiarity with these skills.**

**Say this:** "Verbs are action words. Tense talks about when a verb happened. Many words that already happened end in an '-ed'. These include: talked, walked, dropped, wished, looked, and opened." These past tense verbs talk about something that is done and over with."

**Write** examples on the board. Emphasize the '-ed' ending.

**Say this:** "There are many verbs, though, that don't do this. What's wrong with this?" **Write** this on the board: **eated**

**Say this:** "For some reason, 'eated' is just not a word. You can't say 'This morning I eated breakfast.' What do you say instead? Another word like is the word 'see'." Instead of saying "I seed that," what would you say?" Can you think of more verbs like this? **Write** additional words on the board.

**Add this** if possible: There usually is no pattern to help you figure out these words. What can help you is your gut instinct. If the word sounds wrong, it probably is.

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## Quick Drill

## Guided Practice Ideas

Instruct students to repeat approximately 10 to 15 short sentences containing irregular past tense verbs. Provide cues as necessary to ensure near 100% accuracy. Some examples:

### Early Developing

The dog bit the mailman.  
Her window broke.  
We made decorations in class.  
Our teacher taught us a lesson.  
He told me not to run.  
We won the game.  
I wore my new clothes.  
I went home after school.  
The cat ate all her food.  
My mom lost her keys.

### Later Developing

It began to rain.  
We caught a lot of fish.  
I thought that we were done.  
I rode a horse for the first time.

### Advanced

I bent the pipe.  
She heard the good news.  
Pilgrims overcame tough times.  
She meant to do that.