

The verbs that refuse to take -ed

These 24 verbs do not add -ed in the past. They change shape instead, so they have to be learned by heart. This pack is built as a matching game, because matching is how these actually stick. Pages 2 to 4 are the plain verbs. Pages 5 to 7 are the past forms.

Four ways to use these cards

- Snap the pair. Spread all 48 face up and race to match each NOW card with its YESTERDAY card.
- Memory. Turn all 48 face down. Turn two over. Keep them if they are a pair, and say the sentence.
- Beat the clock. Hold the NOW pile only. Say the past form out loud, then check against the other pile.
- Five a week. Take five pairs, pin them up, and swap them on Monday. Five a week clears the pack in five weeks.

THE PATTERNS HIDING IN THIS PACK

The verbs are not random. Point these out and the work roughly halves.

The vowel turns into an a: sing sang, drink drank, swim swam, run ran.

The ending turns into ew: grow grew, know knew, throw threw, draw drew, fly flew.

The ending is swapped for ought or aught: buy bought, catch caught, teach taught.

An o takes over the middle: break broke, write wrote, ride rode.

The rest have no pattern at all: go went, eat ate, see saw, come came, make made, give gave.

PRINTING AND CUTTING

Print pages 2 to 7 on A4. Card stock is worth it here, because the cards get shuffled a lot.

The plain verbs say NOW in teal. The past forms say YESTERDAY in coral, so the two piles can be told apart at a glance even after they have been dropped on the floor.

Cut along the dashed lines. There are 8 cards on each page.

PAIR THESE WITH THE FREE LIST AND WORKSHEET

The Level 2 irregular verb list has all 100 rule breakers grouped into families.

The Level 2 worksheet has 48 questions in six parts with a full answer key.

Both are free at <https://numrahedu.com/english/verbs/level-2/>

NOW

go

Numrahedu.com | free verb worksheets

NOW

eat

Numrahedu.com | free verb worksheets

NOW

run

Numrahedu.com | free verb worksheets

NOW

see

Numrahedu.com | free verb worksheets

NOW

come

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NOW

make

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NOW

take

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NOW

give

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NOW

sing

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NOW

drink

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NOW

swim

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NOW

fly

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NOW

grow

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NOW

know

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NOW

throw

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NOW

draw

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NOW

write

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NOW

ride

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NOW

break

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NOW

sleep

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NOW

keep

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NOW

buy

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NOW

catch

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NOW

teach

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YESTERDAY

went

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YESTERDAY

ate

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YESTERDAY

ran

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YESTERDAY

saw

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YESTERDAY

came

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YESTERDAY

made

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YESTERDAY

took

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YESTERDAY

gave

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YESTERDAY

sang

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YESTERDAY

drank

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YESTERDAY

swam

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YESTERDAY

flew

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YESTERDAY

grew

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YESTERDAY

knew

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YESTERDAY

threw

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YESTERDAY

drew

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YESTERDAY

wrote

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YESTERDAY

rode

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YESTERDAY

broke

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YESTERDAY

slept

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YESTERDAY

kept

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YESTERDAY

bought

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YESTERDAY

caught

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YESTERDAY

taught

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