S-4a Verb Tenses

Multiple Choice

Each of the following passages may contain problems with verb tense. Select the answer that uses verb tenses correctly. If the original passage is correct, select *c. No change*.

1. Samantha phoned her brother. She explains that she needs to postpone her trip to visit him, and she asks if she can arrive later in the month.

a. Samantha phoned her brother. She explained that she needed to postpone her trip to visit him, and she asked if she could arrive later in the month.

b. Samantha phoned her brother. She is explaining that she needs to postpone her trip to visit him, and she is asking if she can arrive later in the month.

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

2. In the first chapter of the novel *Forgetfulness* by Ward Just, a Frenchwoman takes a walk in the mountains outside a French village. After she tripped and hurt her foot, she implored four foreigners who crossed her path to carry her home. They complied for a while, but then they murdered her.

a. In the first chapter of the novel *Forgetfulness* by Ward Just, a Frenchwoman had taken a walk in the mountains outside a French village. After she has tripped and hurt her foot, she implores four foreigners who cross her path to carry her home. They complied for a while, but then they murdered her.

b. In the first chapter of the novel *Forgetfulness* by Ward Just, a Frenchwoman takes a walk in the mountains outside a French village. After she trips and hurts her foot, she implores four foreigners who have crossed her path to carry her home. They comply for a while, but then they murder her.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

3. By the end of tomorrow’s race, Annie has run more than forty miles.

a. By the end of tomorrow’s race, Annie will run more than forty miles.

b. By the end of tomorrow’s race, Annie will have run more than forty miles.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

4. Our friends were calling to announce their engagement and to say they have picked May 19 as their wedding date.

a. Our friends are calling to announce their engagement and to say they pick May 19 as their wedding date.

b. Our friends were calling to announce their engagement and to say they will have picked May 19 as their wedding date.

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

5. The story “Araby” by James Joyce has made use of religious symbolism.

a. The story “Araby” by James Joyce makes use of religious symbolism.

b. The story “Araby” by James Joyce made use of religious symbolism.

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

6. Derek was thinking about whether he will go to graduate school next year or whether he is getting a job.

a. Derek is thinking about whether he will go to graduate school next year or whether he has gotten a job.

b. Derek is thinking about whether he will go to graduate school next year or whether he will get a job.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

7. Before the civil rights movement of the 1960s ended, Martin Luther King Jr. and John and Robert Kennedy are murdered.

a. Before the civil rights movement of the 1960s ended, Martin Luther King Jr. and John and Robert Kennedy had been murdered.

b. Before the civil rights movement of the 1960s ends, Martin Luther King Jr. and John and Robert Kennedy were murdered.

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

8. Ted Kennedy was elected to the Senate in 1962, and he has been serving in Congress ever since.

a. Ted Kennedy was elected to the Senate in 1962, and he served in Congress ever since.

b. Ted Kennedy was elected to the Senate in 1962, and he was serving in Congress ever since.

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

9. In James Joyce’s “Araby,” the narrator promises to buy a gift at the fair for Mangan’s sister, but he arrived at the fair too late.

a. In James Joyce’s “Araby,” the narrator has promised to buy a gift at the fair for Mangan’s sister, but he arrived at the fair too late.

b. In James Joyce’s “Araby,” the narrator promises to buy a gift at the fair for Mangan’s sister, but he arrives at the fair too late.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

 <http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

10. Donna told her teenage son, “From now until the end of the school year, there were consequences for your disrespectful behavior.”

a. Donna told her teenage son, “From now until the end of the school year, there will be consequences for your disrespectful behavior.”

b. Donna told her teenage son, “From now until the end of the school year, I was giving you consequences for your disrespectful behavior.”

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=12>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4a-verb-tenses.html>

S-4b Verb Forms

Multiple Choice

Select the verb form that belongs in the blank.

1. Although Gina had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dino for years, she was just starting to like him.

a. knew

b. known

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

2. Once Norah is out of college, she wants \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Spain and Portugal.

a. to travel

b. traveling

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

3. Do you know why Ahmed did not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ soccer practice yesterday?

a. attend

b. attended

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

4. The coach said that every player who works hard will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the season.

a. rewarded

b. rewarding

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

5. Maria reread all of her letters from Frank, who had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to her every week since he had gone to Afghanistan.

a. wrote

b. written

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

6. My nephew \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about transferring to an engineering firm in Lucerne, Switzerland.

a. think

b. is thinking

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

7. The fifth-grade teacher made an announcement to her class: “Once all of you have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you may play basketball in the gym for twenty minutes.”

a. eaten

b. ate

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

8. I took the dog for a short walk, but it is too hot and humid outside for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. jogging

b. to jog

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

9. Because Lou was sick for two weeks, Molly had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ him her notes so he could study for the test.

a. gave

b. given

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

10. Whom have the sportswriters \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ most recently for the Baseball Hall of Fame?

a. chose

b. chosen

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=14>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4b-verb-forms.html>

S-4c Active and Passive Voice

Multiple Choice

In each of the following sentences, the independent clause is written in the passive voice. If you were to rewrite the clauses in the active voice, select the answer that correctly identifies the words you would use as subject and verb. If the independent clause has no subject, an appropriate subject may be provided in one of the answers. If neither answer is correct, select *c. Neither is correct*.

1. Long before the Pilgrims landed on the eastern shore, rich cultures and languages had been developed by Native American tribes.

a. cultures and languages; developed

b. tribes; had developed

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

2. On the night of the 1968 California presidential primary, which was a close race, Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated by Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

a. race; was

b. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan; assassinated

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

3. The fate of the English settlers on Roanoke Island is unknown.

a. no one; knows

b. settlers; know

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

4. It was pledged by the chief of police that drug dealers would be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

a. chief; would prosecute

b. chief; pledged

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

5. After years of tight races between the New York Yankees and other teams, the World Series was finally won by the Boston Red Sox in 2004.

a. teams; won

b. World Series; was

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

6. The role of the emperor was sung by Placido Domingo.

a. Placido Domingo; sang

b. role; was

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

7. Bobby Thompson’s 1951 pennant-winning walk-off home run was heard by American soldiers listening to radios in Korea.

a. soldiers; heard

b. soldiers; listened

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

8. Whom is this bride given away by?

a. bride; is

b. who; gives away

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

9. In addition to September 11, 2001, what other war-related dates are remembered by Americans, especially by those who lived through World War II?

a. Americans; lived

b. Americans; are

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

10. The film was made by someone you never heard of.

a. someone; made

b. you; heard

c. Neither is correct.

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4c. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=18>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4c.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4c-active-and-passive-voice.html>

S-4d Mood

Multiple Choice

Select the verb or verb phrase that belongs in the blank.

1. During the Civil War, if a soldier \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seriously wounded, he probably would not survive.

a. was

b. were

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

2. Did you know that Jimmy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ going to visit his sister in Santa Fe?

a. was

b. were

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

3. If you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your dog for a half hour every morning, both you and the dog will be in better physical condition.

a. walk

b. were walking

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

4. If the president had lowered the federal deficit, the country \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in better financial condition today.

a. is

b. would be

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

5. Although Gwen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rich, she didn’t spend money extravagantly.

a. was

b. were

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

6. What do you think we should do if the consensus on the city council \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to fall apart?

a. was

b. were

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

7. Call the fire department now, before the fire \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ any worse!

a. gets

b. were to get

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

8. If you read to your children every night, they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to love books and become better readers.

a. will learn

b. are learning

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

9. Many economists were worried because the stock market \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in recent weeks.

a. were falling

b. had fallen

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>

10. I wouldn’t consider spending $25,000 to renovate a guest bathroom, even if I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wealthy.

a. was

b. were

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-4d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=19>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-4d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-4d-mood.html>