

A Walk in the Park

It's a walk in the park to use consistent verb tenses!

Read this paragraph; what tense is it? Find the verbs. Can you put the necessary verbs into the **past** tense so the paragraph still makes sense?

As we (my dog Hodge and I) approach the playing fields, Hodge is straining to pull away. "What's the matter with you?" I grumble, tugging hard at his lead. "We'll be there any minute anyway." However, the moment we squeeze through the gap in the hedge and onto the grass, he plonks his bottom down and wags his curly tail furiously in his best 'what a good dog!' position.

Then, I see what he has already smelled - his best friend Willow is waiting for him about fifty metres away. The second I unclip him, he is off like a bullet towards her! Meeting in the middle of the cricket pitch with a sort of doggy high-five, they race deliriously around and over each other for the next twenty-five minutes. Exhausted, finally, they both collapse on the grass in a heap, while Willow's owner jokes that they are puffing like a pair of furry steam trains.



A Walk in the Park Answers

Read this paragraph; what tense is it?

It is the present tense.

Find the verbs. Can you put the necessary verbs into the past tense so the paragraph still makes sense?

All verbs are underlined. Changed verbs are in bold.

As we (my dog Hodge and I) approached the playing fields, Hodge was straining to pull away. "What's the matter with you?" I **grumbled**, tugging hard at his lead. "We'll be there any minute anyway." However, the moment we squeezed through the gap in the hedge and onto the grass, he **plonked** his bottom down and wagged his curly tail furiously in his best 'what a good dog!' position.

Then, I saw what he **had** already smelled - his best friend Willow **was** waiting for him about fifty metres away. The second I **unclipped** him, he **was** off like a bullet towards her! **Meeting** in the middle of the cricket pitch with a sort of doggy high-five, they **raced** deliriously around and over each other for the next twenty-five minutes. **Exhausted**, finally, they both **collapsed** on the grass in a heap, while Willow's owner **joked** that they **were** puffing like a pair of furry steam trains.