



ADVANCED LIST > EASY-TO-MEMORIZE

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**1. Common Anomalies:**

Base Form	Past	Past Participle	Definition
can	could	-----	used to indicate ability, permission
may	might	-----	to be allowed to
shall	should	-----	indicates future tense, first person
will	would	-----	used to indicate future tense
must	-----	-----	to be obliged, compelled, required
ought	-----	-----	indicates obligation, desirability
be	was/were	been	to exist, occur

**2. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are the same:**

let	let	let	to allow, permit; to rent
set	set	set	to put in a specific position
shed	shed	shed	to diffuse, radiate
spread	spread	spread	to distribute over a surface, extend

put	put	put	to set or place in a specific location
cut	cut	cut	to sever with a sharp edge
shut	shut	shut	to close

burst	burst	burst	to explode
hurt	hurt	hurt	to damage, injure or cause pain

cast	cast	cast	to throw, hurl
cost	cost	cost	to be the price of something

bid	bid	bid	to offer to pay a specified price
hit	hit	hit	to strike, to give a blow
slit	slit	slit	to cut a straight long incision
split	split	split	to divide

**3. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 2, but the Past and Past Participle also have a regular form:**

bet	bet/betted	bet/betted	to stake an amount in a wager
wet	wet/wetted	wet/wetted	to make wet or damp
sweat	sweat/sweated	sweat/sweated	to perspire
shred	shred/shredded	shred/shredded	to cut or tear into thin strips

fit	fit/fitted	fit/fitted	to be the proper size and shape
knit	knit/knitted	knit/knitted	to make fabric by interweaving yarn
quit	quit/quitted	quit/quitted	to give up, abandon, relinquish

bust	bust/busted	bust/busted	to break, smash
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**4. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 2, but the Past and Past Participle have an additional irregular form:**

shit*	shit/shat	shit/shat	to defecate
spit	spit/spat	spit/spat	to eject from the mouth

\* Many English speakers find this word offensive.

**5. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same:**

bend	bent	bent	to curve or give an angular shape
lend	lent	lent	to give something to be returned
send	sent	sent	to cause to be transported
spend	spent	spent	to use up money
mean	meant	meant	to signify, represent; to intend

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**5. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same (continued):**

bleed	bled	bled	to emit blood
breed	bred	bred	to produce offspring, engender
feed	fed	fed	to provide food
flee	fled	fled	to run away
lead	led	led	to guide or direct, command
read	read	read	to grasp written material
creep	crept	crept	to move close to the ground
keep	kept	kept	to maintain possession of
sleep	slept	slept	to rest in a semi-unconscious state
sweep	swept	swept	to get rid of dirt with a broom
weep	wept	wept	to shed tears, grieve
leave	left	left	to depart; to allow to remain
meet	met	met	to come together; to be introduced
feel	felt	felt	to perceive sensations
deal	dealt	dealt	to distribute, have transactions
lay	laid	laid	to put down, to make lie down
make	made	made	to create, construct; to compel
pay	paid	paid	to give money in exchange
say	said	said	to express verbally
bring	brought	brought	to carry from one place to another
buy	bought	bought	to acquire in exchange for money
fight	fought	fought	to contend with by word or force
seek	sought	sought	to search for
think	thought	thought	to reason about, consider, believe
catch	caught	caught	to capture, seize, grab
teach	taught	taught	to impart knowledge, instruct
lose	lost	lost	to fail to win or keep possession of
shoot	shot	shot	to fire a projectile
sell	sold	sold	to give in exchange for money
tell	told	told	to give an account, narrate
bind	bound	bound	to tie or secure with a rope
find	found	found	to come upon by search or accident
grind	ground	ground	to turn into powder by friction
wind	wound	wound	to wrap or encircle with coils
dig	dug	dug	to remove earth as with a shovel
stick	stuck	stuck	to pierce or puncture; to attach
spin	spun	spun	to make go round, rotate
win	won	won	to achieve victory or success
cling	clung	clung	to adhere to
fling	flung	flung	to throw, hurl
hang	hung	hung	to suspend from above
sling	slung	slung	to throw with a looped strap or rope
sting	stung	stung	to pierce with something sharp
string	strung	strung	to thread on a string
swing	swung	swung	to move like a pendulum
wring	wrung	wrung	to twist, as in to extract liquid
have	had	had	to possess, contain
sit	sat	sat	to rest on one's hindquarters
build	built	built	to construct
hear	heard	heard	to perceive sound
hold	held	held	to keep by grasping
shine	shone	shone	to emit or reflect light
stand	stood	stood	to assume an upright position



**6. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 5, but the Past and Past Participle also have a regular form:**

burn	burnt/burned	burnt/burned	to harm, damage or destroy by fire
learn	learnt/learned	learnt/learned	to obtain knowledge or ability
blend	blent/blended	blent/blended	to mix, combine
dream	dreamt/dreamed	dreamt/dreamed	to see images while sleeping
lean	leant/leaned	leant/leaned	to incline or cause to incline
leap	leapt/leaped	leapt/leaped	to jump
dwell	dwelt/dwelled	dwelt/dwelled	to live, reside in a given place
kneel	knelt/kneeled	knelt/kneeled	to get down on one's knees
spell	spelt/spelled	spelt/spelled	to say or write the letters of
spill	spilt/spilled	spilt/spilled	to run or let run out of a container
spoil	spoilt/spoiled	spoilt/spoiled	to damage the quality of
plead	pled/pleaded	pled/pleaded	to appeal earnestly; beg
speed	sped/speeded	sped/speeded	to move quickly
sneak	snuck/sneaked	snuck/sneaked	to move in a stealthy manner
slink	slunk/slunked	slunk/slunked	to sneak
mix	mixt/mixed	mixt/mixed	to combine, blend or join together
vex	vext/vexed	vext/vexed	to anger, annoy
bless	blest/blessed	blest/blessed	to consecrate, sanctify, make holy
clothe	clad/clothed	clad/clothed	to put on, provide with clothing
light	lit/lighted	lit/lighted	to ignite; illuminate
zinc	zincked/zinced	zincked/zinced	to galvanize, coat with zinc

**7. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 5, but the Past Participle has an additional irregular form:**

bite	bit	bit/ bitten	to cut, tear or grab with the teeth
hide	hid	hid/hidden	to put and keep out of sight
slide	slid	slid/slidden	to move smoothly over a surface
get	got	got/gotten	to obtain, acquire, purchase
smite	smote	smote/smitten	to strike a heavy blow
strike	struck	struck/stricken	to hit with force

**8. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are different:**

begin	began	begun	to commence, start, initiate
drink	drank	drunk	to ingest liquid
ring	rang	rung	to produce a resonant sound
swim	swam	swum	to propel oneself through water
drive	drove	driven	to guide, control a vehicle
ride	rode	ridden	to be carried by a vehicle or animal
rise	rose	risen	to increase; to stand
stride	strode	stridden	to walk with long steps
write	wrote	written	to trace letters, words on a surface
break	broke	broken	to smash or separate into pieces
choose	chose	chosen	to select, pick out
freeze	froze	frozen	to go from liquid to solid due to cold
speak	spoke	spoken	to utter words, to talk
steal	stole	stolen	to illicitly take property from another
weave	wove	woven	to make cloth by interlacing threads
fly	flew	flown	to move through the air like a bird
blow	blew	blown	to produce an air current
grow	grew	grown	to increase in size; to raise
know	knew	known	to mentally perceive with certainty
throw	threw	thrown	to toss, hurl, propel with the arm
draw	drew	drawn	to depict as with a pencil; to pull

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**8. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are different (continued):**

bear	bore	born	to hold up, support, carry, give birth
tear	tore	torn	to pull apart, rip
swear	swore	sworn	to declare as true; to curse
wear	wore	worn	to have on as covering or protection

forsake	forsook	forsaken	to give up, abandon
shake	shook	shaken	to rapidly move to and fro
take	took	taken	to gain possession, seize

bid	bade	bidden	to say, as in a greeting or blessing
give	gave	given	to make a gift or donation

fall	fell	fallen	to drop, descend by force of gravity
eat	ate	eaten	to consume food

lie	lay	lain	to be or place in a flat position
slay	slew	slain	to kill with violence

do	did	done	to perform, execute, produce
go	went	gone	to move from one place to another
see	saw	seen	to visually perceive

**9. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are different, as in Category 8, but the Past and Past Participle also have a regular form:**

strive	strove/strived	striven/strived	to exert considerable energy
thrive	throve/thrived	ttriven/thrived	to progress, prosper

wake	woke/waked	woken/waked	to stop sleeping
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**10. Past is different, Infinitive and Past Participle are the same:**

come	came	come	to approach, advance, arrive
run	ran	run	to move swiftly on foot

**11. Past is regular, Past Participle has an irregular and a regular form:**

mow	mowed	mown/mowed	to cut grass or grain
show	showed	shown/showed	to display, cause to be seen
sew	sewed	sewn/sewed	to fasten or repair with stitches
sow	sowed	sown/sowed	to spread seed over the ground

gnaw	gnawed	gnawn/gnawed	to chew on; to cause worry or pain
saw	sawed	sawn/sawed	to cut with a saw

prove	proved	proven/proved	to establish the truth with evidence
shave	shaved	shaven/shaved	to remove hair with a razor

swell	swelled	swollen/swelled	to expand from internal pressure
shear	sheared	shorn/sheared	to remove fleece by cutting
strew	strewed	strewn/strewed	to spread around, scatter

**12. Past has two irregular forms, Past Participle has only one.**

sing	sang/sung	sung	to utter words with melody
sink	sank/sunk	sunk	to descend, typically in water
spring	sprang/sprung	sprung	to jump, leap
stink	stank/stunk	stunk	to emit a strong offensive odor
shrink	shrank/shrunk	shrunk/shrunken*	to become reduced or constricted

\*Due to the fact that *shrink* follows the same pronunciation pattern as *sink*, *spring* and *stink*, it is included in this category even though it has an additional Past Participle: *shrunken*.

**13. Past has an irregular form and a regular form, Past Participle is regular:**

bide	bode/bided	bided	to wait, tarry, be left, remain
dive	dove/dived	dived	to jump head first into water

**14. Verbs that belong to no other category.**

beat	beat	beaten	to strike repeatedly, punish, defeat
chide	chid/chided	chid/chidden/chided	to mildly scold, reprimand
cleave	cleft/clove/cleaved	cleft/cloven/cleaved	to split, separate, pierce; to adhere