



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	<i>Pre-</i>
set	set	set	to put in a specific position	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
cost	cost	cost	to be the price of something	

bid	bid	bid	to offer to pay a specified price	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
spend	spent	spent	to use up money	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
feed	fed	fed	to provide food	<i>Pre-</i>
flee	fled	fled	to run away	
lead	led	led	to guide or direct, command	<i>Pre-</i>
read	read	read	to grasp written material	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
pay	paid	paid	to give money in exchange	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
sell	sold	sold	to give in exchange for money	<i>Pre-</i>
tell	told	told	to give an account, narrate	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
build	built	built	to construct	<i>Pre-</i>
hear	heard	heard	to perceive sound	<i>Pre-</i>
hold	held	held	to keep by grasping	<i>Pre-</i>
shine	shone	shone	to emit or reflect light	<i>Pre-</i>
stand	stood	stood	to assume an upright position	<i>Pre-</i>



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	
dwelt/dwelted	dwelt/dwelted	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	<i>Pre-</i>
spill	spilt/spilled	spilt/spilled	to run or let run out of a container	
spoil	spoilt/spoiled	spoilt/spoiled	to damage the quality of	
pled	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	
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	
got	got	got/gotten	to obtain, acquire, purchase	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
rise	rose	risen	to increase; to stand	<i>Pre-</i>
stride	strode	stridden	to walk with long steps	
write	wrote	written	to trace letters, words on a surface	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
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	<i>Pre-</i>
know	knew	known	to mentally perceive with certainty	
throw	threw	thrown	to toss, hurl, propel with the arm	<i>Pre-</i>
draw	drew	drawn	to depict as with a pencil; to pull	<i>Pre-</i>

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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	Pre-
bid	bade	bidden	to say, as in a greeting or blessing	Pre-
give	gave	given	to make a gift or donation	Pre-
fall	fell	fallen	to drop, descend by force of gravity	
eat	ate	eaten	to consume food	Pre-
lie	lay	lain	to be or place in a flat position	Pre-
slay	slew	slain	to kill with violence	
do	did	done	to perform, execute, produce	Pre-
go	went	gone	to move from one place to another	Pre-
see	saw	seen	to visually perceive	Pre-

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	thriven/thrived	to progress, prosper	
wake	woke/waked	woken/waked	to stop sleeping	Pre-

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

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

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	Pre-
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	Pre-
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	



ADVANCED LIST > CORRESPONDING PREFIXED VERBS

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bid

forbid	forbade/forbad*	forbidden	to command not to do
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* Even though *bid* has only one Past form, *forbid* has two.

bid

outbid	outbid	outbid/outbidden*	to bid more than
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* Even though *bid* has only one Past Participle, *outbid* has two.

bide

abide	abode/abided	abode*/abided	to tolerate, wait patiently
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* While *bode* is not documented as a Past Participle of *bide*, *abode* is documented as a Past Participle of *abide*.

breed

crossbreed	crossbred	crossbred	to mate different breeds
inbreed	inbred	inbred	to mate related breeds

build

rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt	to build again
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cast

typecast	typecast	typecast	to cast in the same role
broadcast	broadcast/broadcasted*	broadcast/broadcasted*	to transmit on TV or radio
forecast	forecast/forecasted*	forecast/forecasted*	to predict

* Even though *cast* has only one Past and Past Participle; *cast*, *broadcast* and *forecast* also use the regular form.

come

become	became	become	to grow or come to be
overcome	overcame	overcome	to surmount, defeat

do

outdo	outdid	outdone	to do more than, surpass
overdo	overdid	overdone	to do in excess, go too far
redo	redid	redone	to do again
undo	undid	undone	to disassemble, untie

draw

overdraw	overdrew	overdrawn	to draw in excess of credit
redraw	redrew	redrawn	to draw again
withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn	to take back, remove

eat

overeat	overate	overeaten	to eat too much
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feed

breastfeed	breastfed	breastfed	to feed with mother's milk
overfeed	overfed	overfed	to feed too much

get

beget	begot/begat*	begot/begotten	to father, cause to exist
forget	forgot	forgot/forgotten	to not remember

* *Beget* has an archaic Past form, *begat*, which is generally rare but used extensively in some translations of the Bible.

give

forgive	forgave	forgiven	to pardon for an offense
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go

forgo	forwent	forgone	to relinquish, do without
undergo	underwent	undergone	to experience; suffer

grow

outgrow	outgrew	outgrown	to become too big for
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hear

overhear	overheard	overheard	to hear extrinsically
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hold

behold	beheld	beheld	to see, look upon, gaze at
uphold	upheld	upheld	to maintain, affirm
withhold	withheld	withheld	to refrain from giving

lead

mislead	misled	misled	to lead wrong
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let

sublet	sublet	sublet	to rent to another what is already rented
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lie

overlie	overlay	overlain	to lie upon or over
underlie	underlay	underlain	to be the basis of

make

remake	remade	remade	to make again
unmake	unmade	unmade	to undo, destroy, depose

pay

overpay	overpaid	overpaid	to pay in excess
prepay	prepaid	prepaid	to pay in advance
repay	repaid	repaid	to pay back
underpay	underpaid	underpaid	to pay insufficiently

prove

disprove	disproved	disproven/disproved	to prove false or invalid
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read

misread	misread	misread	to read incorrectly
reread	reread	reread	to read again

ride

override	overrode	overridden	to disregard or annul
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rise

arise	arose	arisen	to get up, awake; to result
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run

outrun	outran	outrun	to run faster or farther than
overrun	overran	overrun	to invade, defeat

see

foresee	foresaw	foreseen	to know, see in advance
oversee	oversaw	overseen	to supervise

sell

resell	resold	resold	to sell again
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send

resend	resent	resent	to send again
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set

preset	preset	preset	to set beforehand
reset	reset	reset	to set again
typeset	typeset	typeset	to set text into print type
upset	upset	upset	to turn over; to disturb

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shine

outshine	outshone	outshone	to shine more than
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shoot

overshoot	overshot	overshot	to go or shoot beyond
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sit

resit	resat	resat	to retake an exam
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sleep

oversleep	overslept	overslept	to sleep too much
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spell

misspell	misspelt/misspelled	misspelt/misspelled	to spell incorrectly
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spend

overspend	overspent	overspent	to spend in excess
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stand

misunderstand	misunderstood	misunderstood	to understand incorrectly
understand	understood	understood	to comprehend, know
withstand	withstood	withstood	to successfully oppose

take

mistake	mistook	mistaken	to identify incorrectly
overtake	overtook	overtaken	to catch up and pass
partake	partook	partaken	to participate
undertake	undertook	undertaken	to commit oneself to a task

tell

foretell	foretold	foretold	to predict, tell beforehand
retell	retold	retold	to tell again

think

rethink	rethought	rethought	to reconsider
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throw

overthrow	overthrew	overthrown	to bring down a ruler
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wake

awake	awoke/awaked	awoken/awaked	to wake up, become alert
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weave

interweave	interwove/interweaved	interwove/interwoven/ interweaved	to intertwine, intermix
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* Although *weave* only has irregular forms for the Past and Past Participle, *interweave* also uses regular forms as well as a second irregular form for the Past Participle.

wind

rewind	rewound	rewound	to reverse a winding
unwind	unwound	unwound	to undo a winding

write

overwrite	overwrote	overwritten	to write or record on top of
rewrite	rewrote	rewritten	to revise, write again
underwrite	underwrote	underwritten	to insure against losses

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