Past Tense Test

Regular verbs
All regular verbs end in –ed, but can have three different sounds. This section of the test will assess your listening skills and ability to identify the correct ending sound.

Listen to the verbs carefully as the teacher speaks. Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb. Then mark the correct ending sound (d, t, id) on the chart.

1. When Ms. Cohen awoke from a good night’s sleep, she (walk) ________ to the bathroom.
2. She (look) ________ in the mirror.
3. Oh, my! She was (frighten) ________ by what she saw.
4. Her face was (cover) ________ in purple and green spots.
5. Ms. Cohen quickly (call) ________ the doctor.
6. The doctor said she (need) ________ to come in to the office right away.
7. At the doctor’s office, both the nurse and the doctor (examine) ________ Ms. Cohen’s face.
8. They were both so (surprise) ________. No one had ever had this kind of rash
10. He said if Ms. Cohen (want) ________ to look normal, she would have to stop eating pickles and blueberries at the same time.

Irregular Verbs
Each irregular verb takes a different form in the past tense—that’s what makes it irregular. This section of the test will be divided into several parts to assess your ability to identify the correct verb form in affirmative and negative sentences, as well as your ability to construct/answer questions.

Part 1: What’s the past tense?

Go _____ Take _____ Eat _____ Sleep ______ leave ______
Put _____ Have _____ Buy _____ Know ______ Be ________

Part 2: Change the verb to the correct form

1. Ms. Dubman ________ the bus to school this morning (take)
2. The students ________ around the classroom yesterday (run)
3. When the weather was cold, everyone ________ indoors (stay)
4. The boss ________ his employee, “you’re fired.” (tell)
5. Laura ________ frightened when she moved to the Prairie. (be)
Part 3: Change the sentence to negative

1. The students studied for the test.
   _______________________________________

2. Tom thought his best friend was lying to him.
   _______________________________________

   _______________________________________

4. Mary swam faster than the other people on the team.
   _______________________________________

Part 4: Answer the question

1. What time did you get up?
2. Where did you put your pencil?
3. How many students were absent yesterday?
4. Did the girls speak to the boys in the hall? (answer Yes . . . .)
5. Why did you come to America?

Part 5: Make a question about the words in bold print.

1. ______________________________________
   (I wrote a letter to my penpal.)

2. ______________________________________
   (The books cost $5.00 each.)

3. ______________________________________
   (Maria spoke to her boyfriend last night.)

4. ______________________________________
   Many of the students came from El Salvador.

5. ______________________________________
   (She stole the cookies because she was hungry.)