Name _____ Date _____

Fixing Verb Tense Shifts

Pick one tense. Change it only when the time really changes.

A. Fix the shift. Cross out the wrong verb and write the right one.

1. I grabbed my coat and run outside.
2. The baby cries and woke up Dad.
3. We walked to the store and buy milk.
4. Sam opens the box and found a toy.
5. The sun rose and the birds sing.
6. She dances and sang at the show.
7. We will visit Grandma and brought cookies.
8. The cat jumped and lands on its feet.

B. OK or shift? Circle one.

1. I was shy last year, but now I talk a lot. (OK / shift)
2. He kicked the ball and runs after it. (OK / shift)
3. We visited Maine, and next summer we will go back. (OK / shift)

C. Rewrite in the past.

1. Mia wakes up. She eats breakfast. She runs to the bus.

D. Write about yesterday. Three actions, all in the past.

Yesterday I

Answer Key

A. Fix the shift.

1. run → **ran**
2. woke → **wakes**
3. buy → **bought**
4. found → **finds**
5. sing → **sang**
6. sang → **sings**
7. brought → **bring**
8. lands → **landed**

B. OK or shift?

1. **OK**: now shows a real change
2. **shift**: runs → ran
3. **OK**: next summer shows a real change

C. Rewrite in the past.

1. Mia **woke** up. She **ate** breakfast. She **ran** to the bus.

D. Write about yesterday.

Answers will vary. Check that all verbs stay in the past.