

Name _____

Troublesome Verbs

Some pairs of verbs are confusing because they have similar meanings or because they look alike.

	Present	Past	Past Participle
<i>Lay</i> means “put” or “place.”	lay	laid	(<i>has, have, had</i>) laid
<i>Lie</i> means “rest” or “recline.”	lie	lay	(<i>has, have, had</i>) lain
<i>Set</i> means “put something somewhere.”	set	set	(<i>has, have, had</i>) set
<i>Sit</i> means “sit down.”	sit	sat	(<i>has, have, had</i>) sat
<i>Let</i> means “allow.”	let	let	(<i>has, have, had</i>) let
<i>Leave</i> means “go away.”	leave	left	(<i>has, have, had</i>) left

Directions Write the form of the underlined verb indicated in ().

1. A teenage girl sit with the choir. (past) _____
2. She has lay her hand over her heart. (past participle) _____
3. The choir director let her join. (past) _____
4. The music never leave her head. (past) _____
5. When she set her suitcases down in Chicago, Mahalia knew she was home. (past) _____
6. Mahalia’s father had let her follow her dream. (past participle) _____

Directions Use context to help you decide which verb is needed. Then find the principal part needed on the chart. Underline the verb that correctly completes the sentence.

7. I (set, sit) a CD on the counter.
8. Will you (leave, let) me pay for it?
9. My parents have already (left, let) the store.
10. After dinner we (sat, set) down and listened to the CD.
11. Tom has (laid, lain) down on the floor.
12. Fiona (laid, lied) a log on the fire.



Home Activity Your child learned about troublesome verbs. Ask your child to explain the difference in meaning between *sit/set*, *lie/lay*, and *leave/let* and then act out the meanings of the verbs in each pair to demonstrate the difference.

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Directions Choose the form of the underlined verb indicated in (). Use the chart to help you. Write the sentence on the line.

Present	Past	Past Participle
lie (“to rest,” “to recline”)	lay	(has, have, had) lain
lay (“to put,” “to place”)	laid	(has, have, had) laid

1. Wes lay the sheet music on the shelf. (past)

2. The twins lie beside the pool relaxing. (past)

3. Their towels lie on the concrete all day. (past participle)

4. We lay the groundwork for next year’s concert. (past participle)

5. In this song, lay the heaviest emphasis on long vowels. (present)

6. The secret lie in hours of practice. (present)

Directions Write a paragraph describing a photograph of your family or friends. Use as many principal parts of *sit*, *set*, *lie*, *lay*, *leave*, and *let* as you can.



Home Activity Your child learned how to write principal parts of troublesome verbs correctly. Ask your child to write sentences about cleaning a room. Encourage him or her to use forms of *lie*, *lay*, *sit*, *set*, *leave*, and *let*.

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Directions Mark the letter of the verb that correctly completes each sentence.

- I _____ on the couch last night.
A lie
B lay
C laid
D lain
- I usually _____ in this chair.
A sit
B set
C has sat
D setted
- The bus has _____ already.
A leave
B let
C left
D leaved
- The brickmason has _____ stones in concrete.
A sit
B set
C sat
D sitted
- The driver has _____ her keys on the seat.
A lie
B lay
C laid
D lain
- He doesn't _____ riders get out of their seats.
A leave
B let
C left
D letted
- Betty has _____ in bed all week.
A lay
B lie
C laid
D lain
- _____ the area at once!
A Leave
B Let
C Left
D Leaved
- Who _____ on my hat?
A sit
B set
C sat
D sitted
- The cats always _____ in a sunny spot.
A lied
B lie
C laid
D lain



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on principal parts of troublesome verbs. Ask your child to name the principal parts of the verbs *lie*, *lay*, *sit*, *set*, *leave*, and *let* and then use each part in a sentence.

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Directions Write the letter of the definition of the underlined verb.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. You <u>left</u> without your music. | A am seated |
| _____ 2. She <u>had set</u> it on the piano. | B has allowed |
| _____ 3. <u>Lay</u> the tickets on the counter. | C has rested or reclined |
| _____ 4. I <u>sit</u> and listen to the players. | D went away |
| _____ 5. Joan <u>has lain</u> in the sun too long. | E place or put |
| _____ 6. Tim <u>has not let</u> that bother him. | F had put (a thing) somewhere |

Directions Choose a verb from the box to complete each sentence. Write the sentence on the line.

lay leave let lain sit set

7. _____ the oven at 350° before you leave.

8. Everyone, please _____ at the table.

9. Mom and Dad _____ for their voice lesson at 7:15.

10. They _____ us fix our own dinner.

Directions Underline the verb that correctly completes the sentence.

11. I have (laid, lain) in a hammock.
12. Yesterday you (sat, set) up front.
13. The music teacher (left, let) the room.
14. First she (laid, lain) the chalk on the desk.



Home Activity Your child reviewed principal parts of troublesome verbs. Have your child write a joke using different forms of *sit*, *set*, *lie*, *lay*, *leave*, and *let* correctly.