

Verb Forms – 3 Step Strategy

answer SAT verb forms questions in 3 steps

Step 1: The "When" Scan the passage for a time marker

- *Clues to look for:* Yesterday, In 2022, Currently, Before, If.
- *Why:* Identify the tense category (Past, Present, Future)

Step 2: The "Who" Look before the blank to locate the subject.

- Is the subject **Singular** (e.g., *The school library, One popular app*) or
- **Plural** (e.g., *Many university students, Researchers*)?
- *Why:* Identifies subject-verb agreement errors.

Step 3: The "before" Recognize a pattern.

- If the blank follows "**to**", = base form (e.g. *to eat, to work*)
- If the blank follows "**are/were**", = **-ing** ending.
- If the blank follows "**has/had been**" = **-ed/-en**, past participle.