

English Pronunciation: Past Tense -ed Sounds

Level A2 · Lesson 3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 45

Language Focus: Three Sounds for -ed

We add **-ed** to regular verbs to make the past tense. Like the -s/-es ending, this is **not always pronounced the same way** — there are three different sounds.

Sound	When we use it	Examples
/t/	After quiet sounds: p, k, s, sh, ch, f, x	pushed, wished, passed
/d/	After most other sounds (b, g, l, m, n, r, v, z, vowels)	played, cried, carried
/ɪd/	After t or d sounds — adds an extra syllable	hunted, printed, tested

Tip: If the base verb already ends in a "t" or "d" sound (hunt, test, rest, invent), English adds a whole extra syllable: "test" (1 syllable) → "tested" (2 syllables).

Remember: this rule is about **sound**, not spelling. "Wish" ends in the sound /ʃ/ (quiet), so "wished" = /t/. "Rain" ends in the sound /n/ (voiced), so "rained" = /d/.

Exercise 1: True or False (8 points)

1. "crossed" ends with the /t/ sound. True / False
2. "worried" ends with the /t/ sound. True / False
3. "tested" has an extra syllable. True / False
4. "rested" ends with the /d/ sound. True / False
5. "dressed" ends with the /d/ sound. True / False
6. "married" ends with the /d/ sound. True / False
7. "finished" ends with the /t/ sound. True / False
8. "changed" ends with the /t/ sound. True / False

Exercise 2: Multiple Choice (8 points)

Circle the correct sound for the -ed ending in each word.

1. **published** a) /d/ b) /t/ c) /id/
2. **damaged** a) /t/ b) /id/ c) /d/
3. **trusted** a) /id/ b) /t/ c) /d/
4. **increased** a) /d/ b) /t/ c) /id/
5. **managed** a) /id/ b) /d/ c) /t/
6. **hosted** a) /t/ b) /d/ c) /id/
7. **danced** a) /d/ b) /id/ c) /t/
8. **planned** a) /t/ b) /id/ c) /d/

Exercise 3: Matching (9 points)

Say each word aloud. Write **a**, **b**, or **c** next to each word to show its sound.

a) /t/ **b)** /d/ **c)** /id/ (extra syllable)

Word	Sound (a, b, or c)
1. faced	_____
2. followed	_____
3. posted	_____
4. placed	_____
5. allowed	_____
6. lifted	_____
7. reached	_____
8. enjoyed	_____
9. lasted	_____

Exercise 4: Word Sort (12 points)

Write each word in the correct box: matched, searched, wrapped, hoped, employed, believed, received, moved, existed, insisted, adjusted, adopted.

/t/	/d/	/id/

Exercise 5: Gap Fill (8 points)

Write /t/, /d/, or /ɪd/ to show the sound the ending makes.

1. "joke" + -ed → _____ sound
2. "improve" + -ed → _____ sound
3. "like" + -ed → _____ sound
4. "solve" + -ed → _____ sound
5. "risk" + -ed → _____ sound
6. "serve" + -ed → _____ sound
7. "invent" + -ed → _____ sound
8. "present" + -ed → _____ sound

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Exercise 1: True or False — Answers

1. "crossed" ends with the /t/ sound. — **True**
2. "worried" ends with the /t/ sound. — **False**
3. "tested" has an extra syllable. — **True**
4. "rested" ends with the /d/ sound. — **False**
5. "dressed" ends with the /d/ sound. — **False**
6. "married" ends with the /d/ sound. — **True**
7. "finished" ends with the /t/ sound. — **True**
8. "changed" ends with the /t/ sound. — **False**

Exercise 2: Multiple Choice — Answers

1. **published** — correct answer: **b) /t/**
2. **damaged** — correct answer: **c) /d/**
3. **trusted** — correct answer: **a) /ɪd/**
4. **increased** — correct answer: **b) /t/**
5. **managed** — correct answer: **b) /d/**
6. **hosted** — correct answer: **c) /ɪd/**
7. **danced** — correct answer: **c) /t/**
8. **planned** — correct answer: **c) /d/**

Exercise 3: Matching — Answers

faced — **a) /t/**

placed — **a) /t/**

reached — **a) /t/**

followed — **b) /d/**

allowed — **b) /d/**

enjoyed — **b) /d/**

posted — **c) /id/ (extra syllable)**

lifted — **c) /id/ (extra syllable)**

lasted — **c) /id/ (extra syllable)**

Exercise 4: Word Sort — Answers

/t/: matched, searched, wrapped, hoped

/d/: employed, believed, received, moved

/id/ (extra syllable): existed, insisted, adjusted, adopted

Exercise 5: Gap Fill — Answers

1. joke — **/t/**

2. improve — **/d/**

3. like — **/t/**

4. solve — **/d/**

5. risk — **/t/**

6. serve — **/d/**

7. invent — **/id/ (extra syllable)**

8. present — **/id/ (extra syllable)**