



BEGINNER LIST > EASY-TO-MEMORIZE

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1. Common Anomalies:

Base Form	Past		Definition	
can	could	-----	used to indicate ability, permission	
may	might	-----	to be allowed to	
shall	should	-----	indicates future tense, first person	
will	would	-----	used to indicate future tense	
must	-----	-----	to be obliged, compelled, required	
ought	-----	-----	indicates obligation, desirability	
be	was/were	been	to exist, occur	

2. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are the same:

let	let	let	to allow, permit; to rent	
set	set	set	to put in a specific position	<i>Pre-</i>

put	put	put	to set or place in a specific location	
cut	cut	cut	to sever with a sharp edge	

cost	cost	cost	to be the price of something	
hit	hit	hit	to strike, to give a blow	
hurt	hurt	hurt	to damage, injure or cause pain	

3. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same:

mean	meant	meant	to signify, represent; to intend	
send	sent	sent	to cause to be transported	<i>Pre-</i>
spend	spent	spent	to use up money	

feed	fed	fed	to provide food	
lead	led	led	to guide or direct, command	<i>Pre-</i>
read	read	read	to grasp written material	

keep	kept	kept	to maintain possession of	
sleep	slept	slept	to rest in a semi-unconscious state	

feel	felt	felt	to perceive sensations	
leave	left	left	to depart; to allow to remain	
meet	met	met	to come together; to be introduced	

make	made	made	to create, construct; to compel	<i>Pre-</i>
pay	paid	paid	to give money in exchange	<i>Pre-</i>
say	said	said	to express verbally	

bring	brought	brought	to carry from one place to another	
buy	bought	bought	to acquire in exchange for money	
fight	fought	fought	to contend with by word or force	
think	thought	thought	to reason about, consider, believe	<i>Pre-</i>
catch	caught	caught	to capture, seize, grab	
teach	taught	taught	to impart knowledge, instruct	

sell	sold	sold	to give in exchange for money	<i>Pre-</i>
tell	told	told	to give an account, narrate	

have	had	had	to possess, contain	
sit	sat	sat	to rest on one's hindquarters	

build	built	built	to construct	<i>Pre-</i>
find	found	found	to come upon by search or accident	

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3. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same (continued):

hear	heard	heard	to perceive sound	<i>Pre-</i>
hold	held	held	to keep by grasping	<i>Pre-</i>
lose	lost	lost	to fail to win or keep possession of	
stand	stood	stood	to assume an upright position	<i>Pre-</i>
win	won	won	to achieve victory or success	

4. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 3, but the Past and Past Participle also have a regular form:

burn	burnt/burned	burnt/burned	to harm, damage or destroy by fire	
learn	learnt/learned	learnt/learned	to obtain knowledge or ability	
dream	dreamt/dreamed	dreamt/dreamed	to see images while sleeping	

5. Infinitive is different, Past and Past Participle are the same, as in Category 3, but the Past Participle has an additional irregular form

bite	bit	bit/ bitten	to cut, tear or grab with the teeth	
hide	hid	hid/hidden	to put and keep out of sight	

get	got	got/gotten	to obtain, acquire, purchase	<i>Pre-</i>
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6. Infinitive, Past and Past Participle are different:

begin	began	begun	to commence, start, initiate	
drink	drank	drunk	to ingest liquid	
sing	sang	sung	to utter words with melody	
swim	swam	swum	to propel oneself through water	

drive	drove	driven	to guide, control a vehicle	
ride	rode	ridden	to be carried by a vehicle or animal	<i>Pre-</i>
rise	rose	risen	to increase; to stand	
write	wrote	written	to trace letters, words on a surface	<i>Pre-</i>

break	broke	broken	to smash or separate into pieces	
choose	chose	chosen	to select, pick out	
speak	spoke	spoken	to utter words, to talk	
steal	stole	stolen	to illicitly take property from another	

fly	flew	flown	to move through the air like a bird	
blow	blew	blown	to produce an air current	
grow	grew	grown	to increase in size; to raise	
know	knew	known	to mentally perceive with certainty	
throw	threw	thrown	to toss, hurl, propel with the arm	<i>Pre-</i>
draw	drew	drawn	to depict as with a pencil; to pull	

tear	tore	torn	to pull apart, rip	
wear	wore	worn	to have on as covering or protection	

give	gave	given	to make a gift or donation	<i>Pre-</i>
fall	fell	fallen	to drop, descend by force of gravity	
eat	ate	eaten	to consume food	
take	took	taken	to gain possession, seize	<i>Pre-</i>

do	did	done	to perform, execute, produce	<i>Pre-</i>
go	went	gone	to move from one place to another	<i>Pre-</i>
see	saw	seen	to visually perceive	<i>Pre-</i>

7. Past is different, Infinitive and Past Participle are the same:

come	came	come	to approach, advance, arrive	<i>Pre-</i>
run	ran	run	to move swiftly on foot	

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BEGINNER LIST > CORRESPONDING PREFIXED VERBS

build

rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt	to build again
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come

become	became	become	to grow or come to be
overcome	overcame	overcome	to surmount, defeat

do

overdo	overdid	overdone	to do in excess, go too far
undo	undid	undone	to disassemble, untie

get

forget	forgot	forgot/forgotten	to not remember
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give

forgive	forgave	forgiven	to pardon for an offense
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go

undergo	underwent	undergone	to experience; suffer
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hear

overhear	overheard	overheard	to hear extrinsically
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hold

behold	beheld	beheld	to see, look upon, gaze at
uphold	upheld	upheld	to maintain, affirm

lead

mislead	misled	misled	to lead wrong
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make

remake	remade	remade	to make again
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pay

repay	repaid	repaid	to pay back
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ride

override	overrode	overridden	to disregard or annul
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see

foresee	foresaw	foreseen	to know, see in advance
oversee	oversaw	overseen	to supervise

sell

resell	resold	resold	to sell again
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send

resend	resent	resent	to send again
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set

preset	preset	preset	to set beforehand
reset	reset	reset	to set again
upset	upset	upset	to turn over; to disturb

stand

misunderstand	misunderstood	misunderstood	to understand incorrectly
understand	understood	understood	to comprehend, know

take

mistake	mistook	mistaken	to identify incorrectly
overtake	overtook	overtaken	to catch up and pass
undertake	undertook	undertaken	to commit oneself to a task

think

rethink	rethought	rethought	to reconsider
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throw

overthrow	overthrew	overthrown	to bring down a ruler
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write

rewrite	rewrote	rewritten	to revise, write again
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