

Name: _____



EDIT THE STORY

Directions: *The passage below is the beginning of a story “The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle” by Beatrix Potter. Read the passage carefully and determine the main tense. Then underline the verbs that shift incorrectly from the main tense. Write the correct verb tense above.*

Once upon a time there was a little girl called Lucie, who live at a farm called Little-town. She was a good little girl—only she was always losing her pocket-handkerchiefs!

One day little Lucie came into the farm-yard crying—oh, she did cry so! "I've lost my pocket-handkin! Three handkins and a pinny! Had *you* saw them, Tabby Kitten?"

The Kitten goes on washing her white paws; so Lucie will ask a speckled hen—

"Sally Henny-penny, have *you* find three pocket-handkins?"

But the speckled hen ran into a barn, clucking—

"I go barefoot, barefoot, barefoot!"

And then Lucie asked Cock Robin sitting on a twig.

Cock Robin looked sideways at Lucie with his bright black eye, and he flew over a stile and away.

Lucie will climb upon the stile and looked up at the hill behind Little-town—a hill that went up—up—into the clouds as though it had no top!

And a great way up the hill-side she thinks she saw some white things spread upon the grass.

Lucie scrambled up the hill as fast as her stout legs will carry her; she ran along a steep path-way—up and up—until Little-town was right away down below—she could have dropped a pebble down the chimney!

Presently she came to a spring, bubbling out from the hill-side.

Some one had stood a tin can upon a stone to catch the water—but the water was already ran over, for the can was no bigger than an egg-cup! And where the sand upon the path was wet—there were foot-marks of a *very* small person.

Lucie run on, and on.

The path ends under a big rock. The grass was short and green, and there were clothes—props cut from bracken stems, with lines of plaited rushes, and a heap of tiny clothes pins—but no pocket-handkerchiefs!

But there will be something else—a door! straight into the hill;

ANSWER KEY



EDIT THE STORY

*The main tense of this passage is **past tense**. The words in parenthesis indicates the inappropriate shifts in verb tenses. The correct form of verb tenses are indicated in bold and are underlined.*

Once upon a time there was a little girl called Lucie, who (live) **lived** at a farm called Little-town. She was a good little girl—only she was always losing her pocket-handkerchiefs!

One day little Lucie came into the farm-yard crying—oh, she did cry so! "I've lost my pocket-handkin! Three handkins and a pinny! (Had) **Have** you (saw) **seen** them, Tabby Kitten?"

The Kitten (goes) **went** on washing her white paws; so Lucie (will ask) **asked** a speckled hen—

"Sally Henny-penny, have you (find) **found** three pocket-handkins?"

But the speckled hen ran into a barn, clucking—

"I go barefoot, barefoot, barefoot!"

And then Lucie asked Cock Robin sitting on a twig.

Cock Robin looked sideways at Lucie with his bright black eye, and he flew over a stile and away.

Lucie(will climb) **climbed** upon the stile and looked up at the hill behind Little-town—a hill that (went) **goes** up—up—into the clouds as though it had no top!

And a great way up the hill-side she (thinks) **thought** she saw some white things spread upon the grass.

Lucie scrambled up the hill as fast as her stout legs (will) **would** carry her; she ran along a steep pathway—up and up—until Little-town was right away down below—she could have dropped a pebble down the chimney!

Presently she came to a spring, bubbling out from the hill-side.

Some one had stood a tin can upon a stone to catch the water—but the water was already (ran) **running** over, for the can was no bigger than an egg-cup! And where the sand upon the path was wet—there were foot-marks of a *very* small person.

Lucie (run) **ran** on, and on.

The path (ends) **ended** under a big rock. The grass was short and green, and there were clothes—props cut from bracken stems, with lines of plaited rushes, and a heap of tiny clothes pins—but no pocket-handkerchiefs!

But there (will be) **was** something else—a door! straight into the hill;