

## Lesson Plan

### Touchdown Tenses

**Book:** *Saquon Barkley: Football Star*

**Series:** Biggest Names in Sports

**Level:** Navigator

### Objective

To help students practice using and recognizing the meanings of different verb tenses.

### Supplies

- *Saquon Barkley: Football Star* book
- Whiteboard
- Touchdown Tenses worksheet (attached)

### Before the Activity

Read through the *Saquon Barkley: Football Star* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Print out a copy of the Touchdown Tenses worksheet for each student. Draw the following chart on the whiteboard:

<b>Simple Past</b> ran	<b>Simple Present</b> runs	<b>Simple Future</b> will run
<b>Past Progressive</b> was running	<b>Present Progressive</b> is running	<b>Future Progressive</b> will be running
<b>Past Perfect</b> had run	<b>Present Perfect</b> has run	<b>Future Perfect</b> will have run

### Activity

Start by reviewing the different verb tenses. Explain that there are three simple tenses. Past tense describes events that have already happened. Present tense describes events that are currently happening. And future tense describes events that have not yet happened. These simple tenses describe a single action or moment in time. The action has a definite beginning and end.

But sometimes actions do not have a clear beginning and end. Instead, they are continuous. Or, the action is still in progress. We can express these actions using progressive tenses. For example, consider the following sentence:

- Barkley was running down the field when the quarterback threw the ball to him.

This sentence uses two different verb tenses. The quarterback's action is described in simple past tense. But Barkley's action is described in the past progressive tense. By using the past progressive tense, we know that Barkley's action was still in progress when the quarterback's action happened.

Besides the simple and progressive verb tenses, there are also the perfect verb tenses. These tenses are used to describe completed actions or conditions. For example, consider the following sentence:

- Barkley had passed the other team's defense by the time the quarterback threw him the ball.

Again, this sentence uses two different verb tenses. The quarterback's action is described in simple past tense. But Barkley's action is described in the past perfect tense. By using the past perfect tense, we know that Barkley's action was already completed when the quarterback's action happened.

To help students practice recognizing these different verb tenses, pass out the Touchdown Tenses worksheet. Students should use the chart on the whiteboard to help them fill out the answers.

### **Evaluation**

Using the answer key, award students 2 points for each correct answer, for up to 12 points. Note that in some cases, students' answers may not match what is listed in red. However, if a tense is still grammatically correct and if students can explain their reasoning for choosing that tense, accept that answer as correct.

### **Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grades 4 and 5 (L.4.1.B, L.5.1.B, L.5.1.C).

# Touchdown Tenses

*For questions 1–6, identify the underlined verb tense and explain how that tense describes the action.*

1. After Barkley scored the touchdown, the New York crowd went wild.
2. Barkley had scored three touchdowns by the end of the third quarter.
3. In his second game, Barkley ran for more than 100 yards.
4. Barkley will be playing against the Jacksonville Jaguars next Sunday.
5. New York fans are looking to Barkley to lead the Giants to the playoffs.
6. Barkley will have played in 16 games by the end of this season.

*For questions 7–12, fill in the blank, using the appropriate tense of the verb in parentheses. Also, explain your reasoning for choosing that tense.*

7. New York \_\_\_\_\_ the game when Barkley turned it around with a 79-yard touchdown. (to lose)

8. Fans hope that by 2025, Barkley \_\_\_\_\_ the Giants to the playoffs. (to lead)

9. Barkley \_\_\_\_\_ the attention of NFL scouts by the end of his sophomore year in college. (to catch)

10. The Giants \_\_\_\_\_ the Buccaneers next Sunday. (to play)

11. Barkley caught the pass and \_\_\_\_\_ toward the end zone. (to run)

12. Barkley \_\_\_\_\_ with the team every day to stay in shape. (to train)

# Touchdown Tenses Answer Key

For questions 1–6, identify the underlined verb tense and explain how that tense describes the action.

1. After Barkley scored the touchdown, the New York crowd went wild.

**“Went” is in past tense, and it describes a single action/moment.**

2. Barkley had scored three touchdowns by the end of the third quarter.

**“Had scored” is in past perfect tense, and it describes an action that was completed by the end of the third quarter.**

3. In his second game, Barkley ran for more than 100 yards.

**“Ran” is in past tense, and it describes a single action/moment during a game.**

4. Barkley will be playing against the Jacksonville Jaguars next Sunday.

**“Will be playing” is in future progressive tense, and it describes an ongoing condition that will occur in the future.**

5. New York fans are looking to Barkley to lead the Giants to the playoffs.

**“Are looking” is in present progressive tense, and it describes an ongoing condition of fans in the present moment.**

6. Barkley will have played in 16 games by the end of this season.

**“Will have played” is in future perfect tense, and it describes an action that will be completed at a future moment.**

*For questions 7–12, fill in the blank, using the appropriate tense of the verb in parentheses. Also, explain your reasoning for choosing that tense.*

7. New York **was losing** the game when Barkley turned it around with a 79-yard touchdown. (to lose)

**Because we know Barkley turned the game around, the verb cannot describe a completed action. Instead, the verb must describe an action in progress. Also, since Barkley’s action is in past tense, we know the missing verb must be in a version of past tense as well.**

8. Fans hope that by 2025, Barkley **will have led** the Giants to the playoffs. (to lead)

**“2025” lets us know to use a future tense. “By” lets us know that fans are hoping for a completed action. So, we have to use future perfect tense.**

9. Barkley **had caught** the attention of NFL scouts by the end of his sophomore year in college. (to catch)

**“By” lets us know to describe a completed action. Since Barkley’s sophomore year has already happened, we know to use past perfect tense.**

10. The Giants **will play** the Buccaneers next Sunday. (to play)

**“Next Sunday” lets us know to use a future tense verb.**

11. Barkley caught the pass and **ran** toward the end zone. (to run)

**“Caught” is in simple past tense, and so the missing verb should be as well.**

12. Barkley **trains** with the team every day to stay in shape. (to train)

**“Trains” fits because it describes a discrete event that happens in the present.**