

# Practice Reading Reading 08 CHALLENGE YOURSELF 2



#### **Challenge yourself**

#### Read the poem, and answer the questions

The teacher claimed it was so plain,
I only had to use my brain
She said the past of throw was threw.
The past of grow -of course- was grew,
So flew must be the past of fly,
And now, my boy, your turn to try.
But when I <u>trew</u> ,
I had no clue, if mow was mew -
Like know and knew
Or was it mowed
Like snow and snowed?

The teacher frowned at me and said
The past of feed was - plainly - fed.
Fed up, I knew then what I <u>ned</u>:
I took a break, and out I snoke.

She shook and quook (or quaked or quoke?)
With raging anger out she broke:
"Your ignorance you want to hide?
Tell me the past form of collide!"
But how on earth should I decide
If it's collid (Like hide and hid)
Or else - from all that I surmose,
The past of rise was simple rose,
And that of ride was surely rode
So of collide must be collode?

Oh damn these English verbs, I thought
The whole thing absolutely <u>stought!</u>
Of English I have had enough.
These verbs of yours are far too tough.
Bolt upright in my chair I sat,
And said to her "That's that. I <u>quat!</u>".

What is the past of 'try'?
What is the past of 'mow'?

What is the past of 'need'?
What is the past of 'sneak'?

What is the past of 'quake'?

What is the past of 'collide'?

What is the past of 'surmise'?

What is the past of 'stink'?

What is the past of 'quit'?



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### **Check your answers**

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try - tried mow - mowed

need - needed sneak – sneaked or snuck

quake - quaked

collide - collided

surmise - surmised

stink - stunk

quit - quit