

feeling comfortable

with verb tenses

Nov 50 in the Writing Center

Here are some of the "how-to's" of using verb tenses.

Be consistent More important than remembering the "correct" tense for a particular kind of paper is remembering to use the chosen tense consistently. The logic of an argument depends on the logic of grammar.

even if you're uncertain of the appropriateness of a particular tense, if you're consistent, readers will be able to follow your train of thought.

With one tense In literature, even if one scene happens long after another, discuss both in present tense.