

## **Verb Tense in Literature: Instructor Suggestions**

Assign students the following two podcasts and ask everyone to listen to them before class.

- [Using Flashbacks in Fiction](#)
- [Using Present Tense When Writing about the Past](#)

In class, evaluate some of the literature you've read using these podcasts.

Consider placing students into groups and assigning each group one book read in the course; alternately, student groups can select the title they would like to evaluate, or each student in the class can individually evaluate one selection. After the time allotted to discussion and/or note taking, discuss the findings as a class.

## **Questions for Students to Consider**

- What tenses are used in this work?
- Does the author use more than one tense?
- Why might this tense or these tenses have been chosen; how are they used in the work?
- Does this work and its use of tenses align or differ with what we learned in the Grammar Girl podcasts?
- How would a different tense impact this piece of literature?

Ad-free versions of the podcasts and word-for-word transcripts are available through Macmillan Learning's [Achieve](#) and [LaunchPad](#) products. To learn more about digital products and purchasing options, please visit Macmillan's [English catalog](#) or ask your sales representative.

## **Verb Tense in Literature: Student Instructions**

Listen to the following two podcasts before class. (Remember that you can follow along on the text.)

- Using Flashbacks in Fiction
- Using Present Tense When Writing about the Past

In class, we will evaluate some of the literature you've read using ideas from these podcasts.

## **Questions We Will Consider**

- What tenses are used in this work?
- Does the author use more than one tense?
- Why might this tense or these tenses have been chosen; how are they used in the work?
- Does this work and its use of tenses align or differ with what we learned in the Grammar Girl podcasts?
- How would a different tense impact this piece of literature?