

Raise vs. Rise

Present Tense	Past Tense	Past Participle (takes the helping verb “has,” “have,” or “had”)
Raise	Raised	Raised
Rise	Rose	Risen

The Present Tense

A. To raise is a **transitive verb** that requires a direct object. In other words, something or someone is receiving the action. The action of the verb is being transferred from the actor to the direct object.

Examples of Raise in the Present Tense

1. I → *raise* → cows → on a dairy farm.
2. You → *raise* → your hands → above your head.

In the above examples, the **transitive verb** raise is followed by the direct objects cows and your hands, respectively.

B. To rise is an **intransitive verb** and does not take a direct object.

Examples of Rise in the Present Tense

1. I *rise* from my bed each morning.
2. We *rise* from our seats once the service starts.

In the above examples, the **intransitive verb** rise does not take a direct object. We do not transfer the action across to other people or things. Note: Rise here is followed by a prepositional phrase, not a direct object.

The Past Tense and Past Participle

A. The past tense of to raise is *raised*, and the past participle of to raise is *raised*. The past participle of to raise takes the helping verb “has,” “have,” or “had.”

Examples of Raise in the Past and Past Participle Tenses

1. Derrick → *raised* → the bar → in competition. (past tense)
2. My grandmother → *has raised* → seven children → in her lifetime. (past participle tense)

In the above examples, the **transitive verb** raise takes the direct objects the bar and seven children, respectively. Remember that any tense of the **transitive verb** raise must take a direct object.

B. The past tense of to rise is *rose*, and the past participle of to rise is *risen*. To rise is an **intransitive verb** and does not have a direct object.

Examples of Rise in the Past and Past Participle Tenses

1. Zombies *rose* from the grave in my nightmare last night. (past tense)
2. The people *have risen* (*past participle*) up in protest of the new law. (past participle tense)

In the above examples, the **intransitive verb** rise does not take any direct objects because the action is not being transferred to anything. Prepositional phrases are not direct objects.

Activity 1: Practice with the Present Tense

In the following sentences, choose the correct word. If you choose raise, underline the direct object.

1. I raise/rise my hand when I know the answer.
2. My brother raises/rises with the sun every morning.
3. You raise/rise from the depths of despair.
4. We raise/rise our voices when we get mad.
5. Does the sun raise/rise in the east?

Activity 2: Practice with the Past Tense and the Past Participle

In the following sentences, choose the correct word. If you choose raise, underline the direct object.

1. Last night, the full moon raised/rose above the city.
2. The students raised/rose some great questions in the lecture last week.
3. The little boy raised/rose to the occasion like a man.
4. Vampires have raised/have risen since the beginning of time.
5. Yesterday, my dad raised/rose my car to change a flat tire.

Activity 3: Practice with the Present Tense, Past Tense, and Past Participle

In the following sentences, choose the correct word. Pay attention to the indicated time to determine which tense you should use. If you choose a tense of raise, underline the direct object.

1. The council raised/rose a statue in the hero's honor.
2. The city of San José has raised/has risen our minimum wage to \$10/hr.
3. Last month, my family raised/rose a litter of five kittens.
4. My cousins have raised/have risen before 7:00 AM every morning since they were young.
5. Please raise/rise for the National Anthem.

Answer Key for Activity 1

1. raise (direct object: my hand)
2. rises
3. rise
4. raise (direct object: our voices)
5. rise

Answer Key for Activity 2

1. rose
2. raised (direct object: some great questions)
3. rose
4. have risen
5. raised (direct object: my car)

Answer Key for Activity 3

1. raised (direct object: a statue)
2. has raised (direct object: our minimum wage)
3. raised (direct object: a litter of five kittens)
4. have risen
5. rise