The past tense: he wrote, they believed

The past verb (al-māḍī) describes a finished action. Start from the “he” form (3 root letters) and add an ending for each person.

The past verb (al-māḍī) describes a finished action. Start from the “he” form (3 root letters) and add an ending for each person.

Person	Form	Meaning
هُوَ	كَتَبَ	he wrote

Person	Form	Meaning
هِيَ	كَتَبَتْ	she wrote
أَنْتَ	كَتَبْتَ	you wrote
أَنا	كَتَبْتُ	I wrote
نَحْنُ	كَتَبْنا	we wrote
هُمْ	كَتَبوا	they wrote

ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ وَكَانُواْ يَتَّقُونَ

Quran 10 : 63

Past, 3rd person masculine plural (ـوا).

قَالَتْ إِنِّيٓ أَعُوذُ بِٱلرَّحْمَٰنِ مِنكَ إِن كُنتَ تَقِيًّا

Quran 19 : 18

Feminine past: ـت.

قُلْنَا لَا تَخَفْ إِنَّكَ أَنتَ ٱلْأَعْلَىٰ

Quran 20 : 68

Past, 1st person plural: نا‌ـ.

فَكَفَرُواْ بِهِۦ فَسَوْفَ يَعْلَمُونَ

Quran 37 : 170

Past, “they disbelieved”.

Previous letter **Test 2** **Next lesson**

See also

Arabic grammar to understand the Quran

The Arabic alphabet: all 28 letters