

Verb Tenses

Tense	Rule	Example Sentence
Present Simple [infinitive]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a habit 2. a fact or something true 3. timetables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I often start work at 8:30 everyday • The world is round • The trains leave at 3:45
Present Continuous [is/am/are + ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an activity now 2. a temporary activity 3. an arranged future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We're doing a grammar review (now) • I'm staying here for only one month • I'm having my haircut today at 3:00
Present Perfect Simple [have/has +/past participle]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an action that occurred in the past and connects to now 2. a past experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adverbs (<i>for/since/ just/never/ever /yet/still</i>) ▪ Time expressions (<i>today / recently / this morning..</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They've lived here since 2011 • He's had a mobile phone for 1 year • We've just seen Peter • I've never been to Japan
Present perfect Continuous [Have/has +been+ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an activity that started in the past but continues up to now. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I've been studying English for 9 years
Past Simple [past simple form]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a finished action in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I lived in Spain in 2009
Past Continuous [was/were+ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an activity /activities in the past / 2. an activity in progress when another action took place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was watching TV last night (at 9:00) • While I was watching TV, a friend arrived.
Past perfect Simple [had + past participle]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the past of the past (before / after / when) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John was not home, he had gone shopping • When we arrived, he hadn't eaten his dinner
Past Perfect Continuous [had+been+ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a past activity of a past action (before / after/when) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I had been waiting for 20 mins before the bus came.
Future Simple [will+infinitive]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. future facts 2. predictions 3. spontaneous decisions 4. promises, offers, threats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The world cup will be held in Russia in 2018 • We will live on Mars in 2050. • I think I'll go shopping this afternoon • I'll help you with your homework later (offer)
Future simple [going+to+infinitive]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. plans & decision made before speaking 2. predictions made with present evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is going to play badminton tonight (a plan) • Look at those black clouds - It's going to rain
Future Continuous (time) [will+be+ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an activity in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will be travelling to London tomorrow evening
Future Perfect Simple [will+been+past participle]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an action will be completed sometime in the future (by / in) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By June, I'll have been here for 2 months
Future Perfect Continuous [will+have+been+ing]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an activity will be completed sometime in the future (by/ in) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April, I'll have been living here for 5 years