

English Tenses

Tense/ Aspect	Simple	Continuous	Perfect Simple	Perfect Continuous
Present	<p>The verb 'to be' or main verb</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permanent state : Mariana lives in Radomir; 2. Repeated actions, daily routines or habits: Jenny gets up at 5 every morning; 3. Scheduled action: The train to Sofia leaves at 7:10 am; 4. Likes/dislikes: Tom likes his new school; 5. General truth or laws of nature: The sun rises in the east. <p>Negative form: I/You/We/ They don't get up at 5 every day. He/She/It doesn't get up at 5 every day.</p> <p>Interrogative form: Do I/you/we/they get up at 5? Does he/she/it get up at 5?</p>	<p>I am listening He/she/it is listening We/you/ they are listening</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actions happening now, at the moment of speaking: The students are doing their homework now. 2. Temporary actions: Jenny is working in her father's shop this summer. 3. Actions arranged for the near future/ the time and place have been decided/ : Mariana is flying to New York at 6:10 tomorrow morning. <p>Negative form: I am not /I'm not listening now; We/you/they aren't listening now' He/she/it isn't listening now.</p> <p>Interrogative form: Am I listening now? Are we/you/they listening now? Is he/she/it listening now?</p>	<p>I/You/We/They have + participle II of the verb He/She/It has + participle II</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A recent action which happened at an unstated time in the past : The Smiths have just moved into a new flat; 2. An action which started in the past and is still continuing in the present: Miss Kolarska has been a teacher since 1988; 3. An action which has recently finished and whose results are visible in the present: Jenny has made a chocolate cake. It is on the kitchen table. <p>Negative form : I/You/We/They haven't listened He/she/it hasn't listened</p> <p>Interrogative form: Have I/You/We/They listened.. Has he/she/it listened...?</p>	<p>I/You/We/They have been + participle I of the verb He/She/it has been + participle I</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To put an emphasis on the duration of an action which started in the past and continues in the present: They have been studying for 3 hours; 2. For an action which started in the past and lasted for some time. The action may have finished or may still be going on. The result of the action is visible in the present: Tom has a stomach ache. He has been eating chocolate all morning. <p>Negative form: I/You/We/They haven't been + participle I He/She/It hasn't been + participle I</p> <p>Interrogative form: Have I/ you/ we/ they been listening ...?</p>

				Has he/she/it been listening?
<p>Past</p>	<p>I/He/She/It was at home We/You/They were at home I/He/She/It/We/You/They listened /regular verbs with –ed/; /irregular verbs – past column from the table/ Use: 1. Actions which happened or finished at a definite or stated time in the past: I visited granny yesterday. 2. Actions which happened repeatedly in the past but not happened any more: Katie often played darts when she was a child. 3. Actions which happened immediately one after another: I got up at 6, took a shower, got dressed and left for work. Negative form: Didn't + bare infinitive / I didn't get up at 6 yesterday/ Interrogative form: Did you get up at 6 yesterday?</p>	<p>I/He /She/It was + participle I of the verb; We/You/They were+ participle I of the verb Use: 1. For action which was in progress at a stated time in the past. We don't know when the action started or finished: We were playing computer games at 7 yesterday. 2. For a past action which was in progress when another action interrupted it. Past continuous for the action in progress, past simple for the action which interrupted it: When we came home, our parents were having dinner. 3. For two or more actions which were happening at the same time in the past/ simultaneous actions/ : While Jane was watching TV, Tom was talking on the phone. 4. To give background information in a story and to set the scene: The snow was falling heavily as Jane was walking in the park. Negative form: I/He /She/It wasn't + participle I of the verb;</p>	<p>I/You/He/She/It/We/They had + participle II Use: 1. An action which happened before a stated time in the past: He had written the essay by 5 o'clock in the afternoon. 2. An action which happened in the past before another past action. The earlier action is in the past perfect, the later action is in the past simple: He had written the letter before he called Jane. 3. An action which started and finished in the past and whose result was visible in the past: She had injured her foot, so she couldn't walk.</p>	<p>I had been working Use: 1. To put emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished before a stated time in the past: They had been working in the garden for 3 hours by 2 o'clock; 2. To put emphasis on the duration of an action which started and finished before another past action : They had been seeing each other for five years before they got married. 3. For an action which lasted for some time in the past and whose result was visible in the past: She was exhausted because she had been working all night.</p>

		<p>We/You/They weren't+ participle I of the verb;</p> <p>Interrogative form: Was I/he /she/it + participle I of the verb; Were we/you/they participle I of the verb</p>		
Future	<p>I/You/He/She/It/We/They will + bare infinitive</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Predictions about the future based on what we think and feel: I think it will rain today. 2. On-the-spot decisions: I'm hungry. I'll have a sandwich. 3. Promises, threats, warnings, requests and hopes: I hope Jane will come to visit us. <p>Negative form: won't + bare infinitive; Interrogative form: Will I/you/he/she/it/we/they +bare infinitive</p>	<p>I/You/He/She/It/We/They will be+ participle I</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For actions which will be in progress at a stated time in the future: This time next month I will be travelling to Paris. 2. For actions which will definitely happen in the future as a result of a routine or arrangement: Don't text Tom. I'll be seeing him at 2 o'clock. 3. When we ask politely about someone's plans for the near future – to find out if they can do something for us: Will you be going to the post office today? <p>Negative form: I/You/He/She/It/We/They won't be+ participle I; Interrogative form: Will you be going?</p>	<p>I/You/He/She/It/We/They will have + participle II</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For actions which will be finished before a stated time in the future: They will have arrived before the end of August. 	<p>I/You/He/She/It/We/They will have been + participle I</p> <p>Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To put an emphasis on the duration of an action that is extended up to some specific event or time in the future: Ram will have been waiting for an hour by the time I meet him.