

## Verb Tenses

Tense	Uses	Form	1 <sup>st</sup> person singular	2 <sup>nd</sup> person	3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular	1 <sup>st</sup> person plural	3 <sup>rd</sup> person plural
Simple Present	present action, basic truth, future time, or general habitual action	Base form or –s form	I walk.	You walk.	He/she walks.	We walk.	They walk.
Present Progressive	activity that is in progress	am, is, or are + -ing form of verb	I am walking.	You are walking.	He/she is walking.	We are walking.	They are walking.
Present Perfect	Action that began in the past and is connected to the present	have or has + -ed form of verb (or past participle)	I have walked.	You have walked.	He/she has walked.	We have walked.	They have walked.
Present Perfect Progressive	Action that started in the past, is still occurring, and may continue into the future	have or has + been + -ing form of verb	I have been walking.	You have been walking.	He/she has been walking.	We have been walking.	They have been walking.
Simple Past	Completed action or condition	Add -ed to regular verbs	I walked.	You walked.	He/she walked.	We walked.	They walked.
Past Progressive	Past action that took place over time or was interrupted by another action	Was or were + -ing form of verb	I was walking.	You were walking.	He/she was walking.	We were walking.	They were walking.
Past Perfect	Action completed before another event in the past	Had + -ed form of verb (or past participle)	I had walked.	You had walked.	He/she had walked.	We had walked.	They had walked.
Past Perfect Progressive	continuing action in the past that has ended	Had + been+ -ing form of verb	I had been walking.	You had been walking.	He/she had been walking.	We had been walking.	They had been walking.

Continued

Simple Future	Actions or events in the future	Will or shall + base form of verb	I will walk.	You will walk.	He/she will walk.	We will walk.	They will walk.
Future Progressive	Future action that will be ongoing	Will or shall + be + -ing form of verb	I will be walking.	You will be walking.	He/she will be walking.	We will be walking.	They will be walking.
Future Perfect	Action that will be completed by a certain time in the future	Will or shall + have + -ed form of verb (or past participle)	I will have walked.	You will have walked.	He/she will have walked.	We will have walked.	They will have walked.
Future Perfect Progressive	Action that will continue until a certain time in the future	Will or shall + have + been+ -ing form of verb	I will have been walking.	You will have been walking.	He/she will have been walking.	We will have been walking.	They will have been walking.

Below are sentences that show how verbs in the various tenses can be used effectively.

**A.**

I was walking down the street when I heard a loud noise. I had stepped forward only a foot or so when I saw the cat. It had been fighting with another cat and was tired. “I will take you to the vet,” I said to myself.

*past progressive                      simple past                      past perfect                      simple past      past perfect progressive                      simple past*

*simple future                      simple past*

**B.**

I enter the room and see a spectacular party. Joe and Mary are singing Karaoke on a table and everyone else is eating and laughing. I have been wanting to let loose, so I jump up on the table and join the Karaoke performance. Joe and Mary have sung at several parties this past year, but this is the first time I have done it!

*simple present      simple present                      present progressive                      present progressive      present perfect progressive*

*simple present                      simple present                      present perfect                      simple present                      present perfect*

**C.**

You will be crying tomorrow when your football team loses! I will drive you to work every day if they beat my team. If they lose, it will have been only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in history a team has lost 11 games in a row. If that’s the case, you will have been rooting all along for a team that just can’t win a game.

*future progressive                      present      future                      present                      present      future perfect*

*present perfect                      future perfect progressive*

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