

VII. TENSE FORMS.

SimplePresent

I *read* nearly every day.

SimplePast

Last night, I *read*
an entire novel.

SimpleFuture

I *will read* as much as I can this year.

PresentContinuous

I *am reading* Shakespeare at
the moment.

PastContinuous

I *was reading* Edgar Allan Poe last night.

FutureContinuous

I *will be reading* Nathaniel Hawthorne
soon.

PresentPerfect

I *have read* so many books I
can't keep count.

PastPerfect

I *had read* at least 100 books by the time I
was twelve.

FuturePerfect

I *will have read* at least 500 books by the
end of the year.

Present Perfect Continuous

I *have been reading* since I
was four years old.

Past Perfect Continuous

I *had been reading* for at least a year before
my sister learned to read.

Future Perfect Continuous

I *will have been reading* for at least two
hours before dinner tonight.

English Tenses: Simple present

Простое настоящее

Simple present is a very useful tense. It expresses (a) a habitual, regular action in the present and (b) states a fact, general truth, state or condition.

Simple present

I usually work till eight.

We often buy cheese at this store.

He goes to the park every day.

She lives in Boston and works at a bank.

He speaks English very well.

She likes warm weather.

Water freezes at zero degrees Celsius.

Earth is a planet.

Simple present replaces the present continuous for stative verbs, which are generally not used in the continuous tenses.

I know that you understand it.

This house belongs to his sister.

Simple present can replace the simple future, with the meaning of schedule / timetable.

The concert starts in an hour.

The train arrives at seven tomorrow.

Simple present replaces the future tense in subordinate clauses of time and condition. (Future is not allowed in them.)

He will call you when he returns.

If he calls, ask him to wait for me.

Present continuous

Present continuous is a very useful tense. It expresses (a) an action that is going on at the moment of speaking and (b) an action that is going on at the present time but not necessarily at the moment of speaking.

He is writing a letter now.

I'm waiting for Maria.

He is studying German at a night school.

Present continuous can replace the simple future, with the meaning of preplanned action.

I'm going to see her tomorrow.

He is leaving for London tomorrow.

Present perfect

Настоящее совершенное

Present perfect is a very useful tense. It expresses (a) an action that has just ended and (b) reports how things have developed by now.

He has just left.

I have already done it.

He has been to Rome many times.

So far, he has fired ten workers.

Present perfect replaces the present perfect continuous for stative verbs, which are generally not used in the continuous tenses.

I have known him for years.

She has loved him all her life.

In the meaning "the action has lasted for some time by now", the present perfect may be used instead of the present perfect continuous with certain verbs (for example, work, live).

She has been working in this bank for two years.

She has worked in this bank for two years.

Present perfect continuous

Present perfect continuous expresses an action that has been going on for some time by now and is still going on.

We have been waiting for hours.

She has been working for a year.

It has been raining since morning.

Present perfect continuous also expresses an action that has been going on lately.

I have been thinking about starting my own business.

It has been raining hard, and the ground is still wet.

Simple past

Simple past is a very useful tense. It expresses an action that happened (started and ended) in the past.

They saw her two hours ago.

She arrived yesterday.

He sold cars for five years.

She got up, went to the kitchen, and made some coffee.

I watched old movies and listened to music yesterday.

Past continuous

Past continuous expresses

(a) an action that was going on when another action happened and

(b) an action that was going on at a specific point of time in the past.

I was reading a book when the telephone rang.

While he was walking in the park, he saw an unusual red bird.

He was working at two o'clock yesterday.

Past perfect

Past perfect is used when it's necessary to show that some action happened before another action in the past or before a specific point of time in the past.

By the time he returned, I had finished my work on the report.

She had typed four reports by six o'clock yesterday.

He had lived in Chicago for ten years by the time he moved to Boston.

Simple future

Simple future is a very useful tense. It expresses an action that will happen in the future.

I'll be glad to see you.

We'll be home after seven.

He will probably go there tomorrow.

I think that they will call you soon.

Just remember that the simple future does not express a preplanned action, and no future is used in subordinate clauses of time and condition – use the present continuous in the first case and the simple present in the second case instead of the simple future.

Future continuous

Future continuous expresses an action that will be going on at a specific point of time in the future.

He will be flying to Turkey at two tomorrow.

Tenses in the passive

Active constructions are used more often in English than passive constructions. As a rule, the perfect continuous tenses and the future continuous tense are not used in the passive.

Generally, you need the passive voice in two cases:

1. When it is not known or not necessary to mention who performs the action.
2. When it is necessary to draw more attention to the receiver of the action.

Обычно, страдательный залог нужен вам в двух случаях:

Simple present

Cotton is grown in Egypt.

These toys are made in China.

Present perfect

His book hasn't been published yet.

So far, ten employees have been fired by the new director.

Simple past

His house was built a year ago.

His uncle was killed by a robber.

Past perfect

By the time he returned, the work on the report had been finished.

She said that the house had already been sold.

Simple future

The film will be released in a month.

I think that it will be done tomorrow.

Present Simple : drives, takes, enjoys, has

Past Simple : had, was, grew up, was, met, was, wanted, drove, became

Future Simple : will open, will get married

Present perfect (simple and continuous)

present perfect simple: have / has + past participle

1 I've been to Australia. Have you ever broken your leg?

2 We've just phoned the doctor.

3 I've known her since I was a child.

Present perfect continuous: have / has + been + verb + -ing

How long have you been feeling like this? I've been working here for two months.

I haven't been sleeping well recently. It's been raining on and off all day.

Present perfect simple or continuous?

1 We've lived / We've been living in this town since 1980.

2 We've been living in a rented flat for the last two months.

3 We've painted the kitchen. We've been painting the kitchen.

Task 1 . Раскройте скобки, употребив глаголы Present Simple, Past Simple или Future Simple.

1. We ... (go) roller-skating last Saturday.

2. Our granny ... (bake) meat-pies every weekend.

3. We ... (write) an essay tomorrow.

4. I really ... (enjoy) the opera yesterday.

5. Where your husband ... (work) five years ago?

6. British people ... (prefer) tea to coffee.

7. Tom, you ... (meet) me at the railway station next Sunday?

8. Where she usually ... (celebrate) her birthdays?

9. ... you (have) a big family?

10. Newton ... (invent) the telescope in 1668.

11. When ... this accident (happen)?

12. I always ... (send) Christmas cards to my grandparents.

13. Nina and Nick ... (get married) in two weeks.

14. How many books they ... (bring) tomorrow?

Task 2 . Поставьте глагол to be в одну из форм Simple.

1. ... your girlfriend Italian?

2. I ... afraid of spiders.

3. There ... a lot of tourists in our café yesterday.

4. Peter ... in Africa next winter.

5. We ... never late for our Drawing classes.

6. I ... 70 years old in 2050.

7. She ... my neighbor last year.

8. It ... usually very hot in Egypt.

9. I ... born in September.

10. My parents ... doctors.

Task 3 . Выпишите из текста глаголы в форме Present Simple, Past Simple и Future Simple. Переведите текст.

Clara had a car accident when she was ten years old. When she grew up she was afraid of cars. Then she met Brad who was a professional racing driver. He wanted to help her and drove her in his car every day. So in five years Clara became a racing driver too. Now she drives 200 km per hour and takes part in sports championships. She really enjoys driving and has a lot of future plans. Next year she will open a driving school. And Clara and Brad will get married quite soon.

Task 4 . Переведите текст используйте глаголы в форме Present Simple, Present Perfect, Past Simple и Future Simple

. Клара попала в автомобильную аварию, когда ей было 10 лет. Когда она выросла, она боялась машин. Затем она познакомилась с Брэдом, который был профессиональным автогонщиком. Он хотел ей помочь и катал ее на своей машине каждый день. Так, через 5 лет Клара тоже стала автогонщиком. Теперь она ездит со скоростью 200 км/в час и принимает участие в спортивных чемпионатах. Ей очень нравится вождение, и у нее много планов на будущее. В следующем году она откроет школу вождения. И Клара и Брэд довольно скоро поженятся.

Task 5 . Переведите предложение определите форму глаголов: Present Simple, Past Simple и Future Simple

1. This coat doesn't belong to Jane.

2. I don't drive to Moscow once a month.

3. Your boss isn't very impudent.

4. The car didn't stop near the bank.

5. The soup wasn't delicious.

6. The concert won't start at 7 p.m.

7. Her shoes aren't dirty.

8. I didn't buy the curtains for my bedroom.

9. I am not a football fan.

10. Their wedding won't be in spring.

Task 6 . Превратите утвердительные предложения в отрицательные, обращая внимание на форму глагола-сказуемого.

1. This coat belongs to Jane.

2. I drive to Moscow once a month.

3. Your boss is very impudent.

4. The car stopped near the bank.

5. The soup was delicious.

6. The concert will start at 7 p.m.

7. Her shoes are dirty.

8. I bought the curtains for my bedroom.

9. I am a football fan.

10. Their wedding will be in spring.