

Verbs in different tenses – an overview

Tense	+	-	?
Present Simple	I write you write ! he/she/it writes → infinitive ! exception: 3 rd person singular: add -s	I don't write you don't write he/she/it doesn't write → don't/doesn't + infinitive	Do you write? Does he/she/it write? → Do/Does + infinitive
Present Continuous	I am writing you are writing he/she/it is writing → "to be" + infinitive w. -ing	I am not writing you aren't writing he/she/it isn't writing → "not to be" + infinitive w. -ing	Am I writing? Are you writing? Is he/she/it writing? → "to be" + infinitive w. -ing
Past Simple	I wrote He/she/it wrote → infinitive + -ed (e.g. play → played) OR irregular verb (write → wrote)	I didn't write he/she/it didn't write → didn't + infinitive	Did I write? → Did + infinitive
Past Continuous	I was writing → was/were + infinitive w. -ing	I wasn't writing wasn't/weren't + infinitive w. -ing	Was I writing? Was/Were + infinitive w. -ing
Present Perfect	I have written He/she/it has written → have + Past Participle (=infinitive + -ed [e.g. I have played] OR Irregular verb (write → written) ! exception: 3 rd person singular: "has"	I haven't written he/she/it hasn't written → haven't/hasn't + Past Participle	Have I written? Has he/she/it written? Have/Has + Past Participle
Future with "will"	I will write → will + infinitive	I won't write → won't + infinitive	Will I write? → Will + infinitive
Future with "going to"	I am going to write → "to be" + going to + infinitive	I am not going to write → "not to be" + going to + infinitive	Am I going to write? → "to be" + going to