

Tense Review






INTRODUCTION

The word **Tense** is derived from latin word “**tempus**” which means time. A verb indicates the time of an action, event or condition by changing its form.

TENSES

Simple Present Tense

The simple present tense in English is used to describe an action that is regular, true or normal.



We form the present tense using the base form of the infinitive (without 'TO'). In general, in the third person we add 'S' in the third person.

Simple Present Tense is used:

- ▶ When you are referring to habitual actions--actions that you always or never do
- ▶ When you are referring to unchanging truths
- ▶ When you are making general statements of fact

Subject	Verb	The Rest of the sentence
I / you / we / they	speak / learn	English at home
he / she / it	speaks / learns	English at home

Examples

- ▶ (habit) He always comes late to class.
- ▶ (unchanging truth) The sun rises in the east.
- ▶ (general statement of fact) They are friendly.

Indicators

Always

Whenever

Everyday

Usually

Often

Frequently

Sometimes

Rarely

Occasionally

never

Form

I study

You study

S/he/it studies

We study

They study

I wait

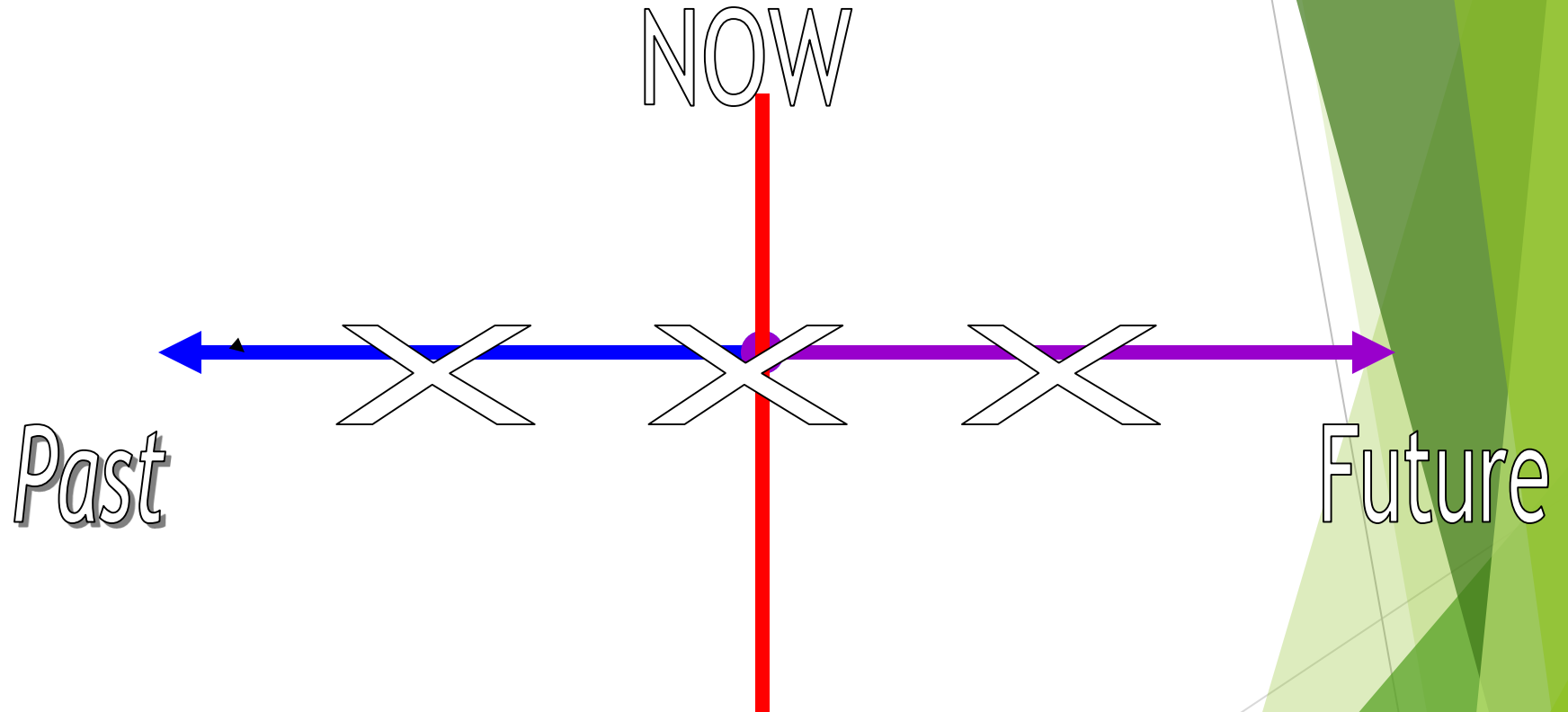
You wait

s/he/it waits

we wait

they wait

Diagram--time on a line



Fill in the blanks with the correct form of words given:

1. Rain seldom _____ (fall) in the Sahara.
2. Janith _____ (work) eight hours a day.
3. They _____ (see) him once a week.
4. Who _____ (want) more ice cream?
5. I _____ (know) him very well.

Negative Sentences - Simple Present Tense

To make a negative sentence in English we normally use Don't or Doesn't with all verbs EXCEPT To Be and Modal verbs (can, might, should etc.).

Affirmative: You speak French.

Negative: You don't speak French.

You will see that we add don't between the subject and the verb. We use Don't when the subject is I, you, we or they.

Affirmative: He speaks German.

Negative: He doesn't speak German.

Word Order of Negative Sentences

Subject	don't/doesn't	Verb*	The Rest of the sentence
I / you / we / they	don't	buy	cereal for
he / she / it	doesn't	eat / like etc.	breakfast

Word Order of Questions with Do and Does

The following is the word order to construct a basic question in English using Do or Does.

Subject	Verb*	rest of the sentence
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Do	I / you / we / they	Need / want a new bike?
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Does	he / she / it	Need / Want a new bike?
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Fill in the blanks with correct form of the verb.

1) My mother(like) chocolate, but she..... (do) like biscuits.

2) What(do) the children wear at your school?

3) Lasitha's father(watch) badminton on TV, but he(do) watch judo.

4) Where(do) the farmers buy their fruit?

5)(Do) the cat like to sleep on the sofa?

Present Continuous / Progressive Tense

FORM - [am/is/are + present participle]

Affirmative sentences:

- ▶ I am playing football. You are playing football.
- ▶ I'm playing football. You're playing football.

Negative sentences:

- ▶ I am not playing football. You are not playing football.
- ▶ I'm not playing football. You're not playing football.

Questions:

- ▶ Am I playing football? Are you playing football?

The Present Progressive Tense is Used:

- ▶ When an activity is in progress **now** at the moment of speaking
- ▶ When an activity began before **now** and continues into the future without stopping.
- ▶ When an activity is temporary.
- ▶ When an activity is developing and changing.

Examples

- ▶ I'm explaining something to the class right now.
- ▶ He's taking 16 credits this semester.
- ▶ She is understanding English more and more because she moved into the dorm.

Indicators

Right now, at this
moment

Still

This year, week,
month, etc.

As we speak

Form

I am studying

You are studying

S/he/it is studying

We are studying

They are studying

I'm studying

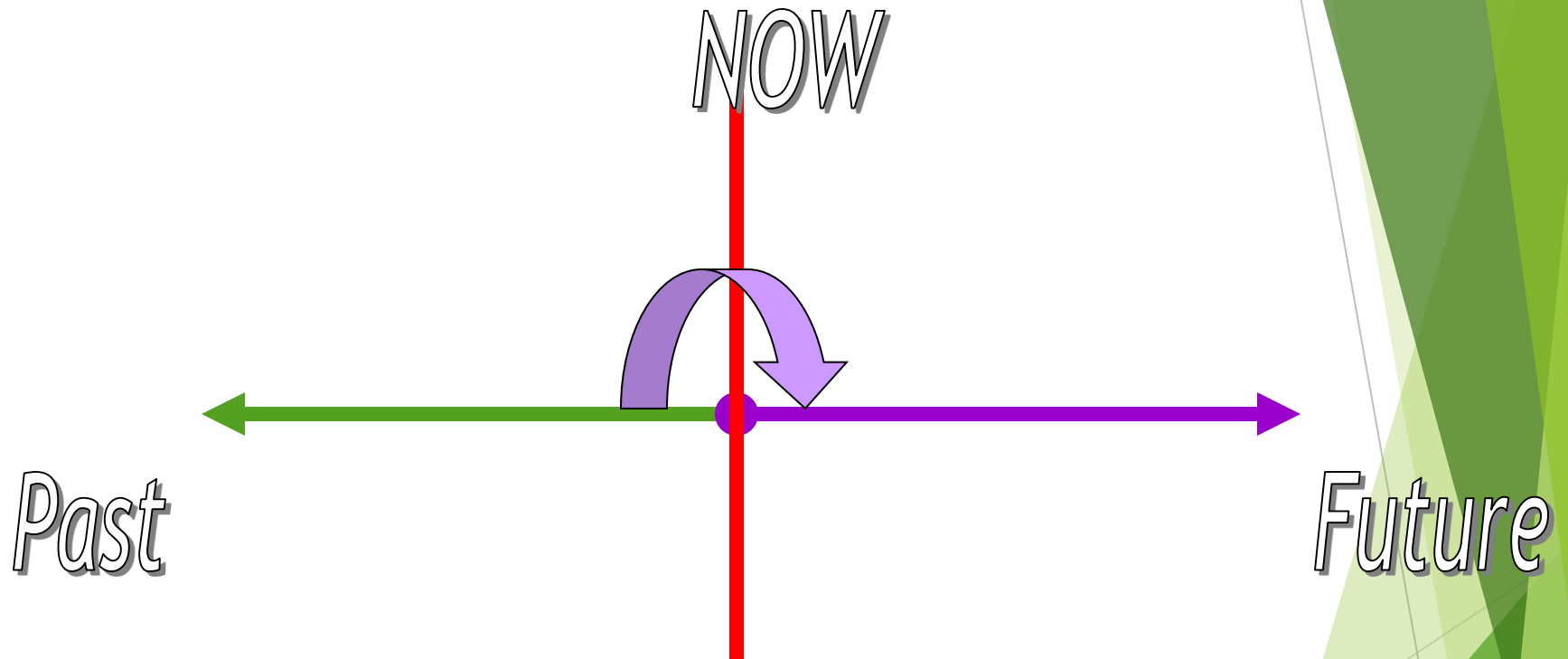
You're studying

S/he/it's studying

We're studying

They're studying

Diagram--time on a line



Present Progressive Tense

Present Perfect Tense

Form - [have/has + past participle]

Affirmative sentences:

- ▶ I have cleaned my room. I have seen that movie before.

Negative sentences:

- ▶ I have not cleaned my room. You have not cleaned your room.

Questions:

- ▶ In the Present Perfect we put the auxiliary (have or has) before the subject

(Auxiliary - Subject -		Verb -	Rest)
▶ Have	I	cleaned	my room?
▶ Have	you	cleaned	your room?

Tense Review

The Present Perfect is Used:

- ▶ When an activity happened at an *unspecified* time in the past (before the present)
- ▶ When an activity has been *repeated* several times before now
- ▶ When an activity was very *recently* completed before now
- ▶ When an activity is *not completed* in the past

Examples

- ▶ (unspecified time before now) They have already seen that movie.
- ▶ (repeated activity before now) We have visited New York City many times.
- ▶ (an action has recently been completed before now) I have just eaten.
- ▶ (action not completed in the past) I have studied Spanish for many years.

Indicators

Before

Ever

Never

So far

Already

Yet

Just

Recently

For

since

Present Perfect Tense

Form 1

have or has + past participle

I have studied . . . I have seen . . .

You have studied . . . You have seen . . .

S/he/it has studied . . S/he/it has seen . . .

We have studied . . . We have seen . . .

They have studied . . . They have seen . . .

Form 2

I've walked . . .

You've walked . . .

S/he/it's walked . . .

We've walked . . .

They've walked . . .

I've grown . . .

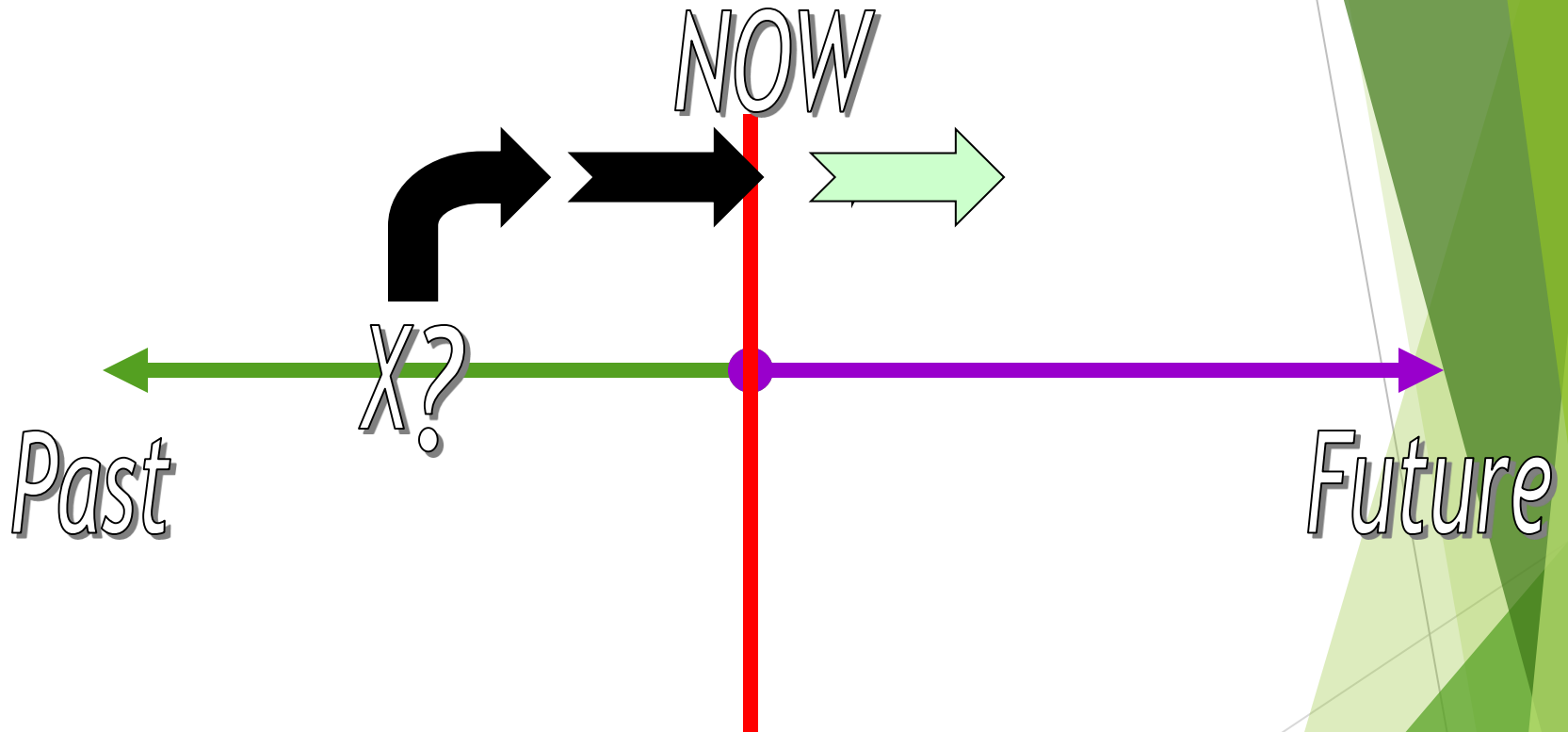
You've grown . . .

S/he/it's grown . . .

We've grown . . .

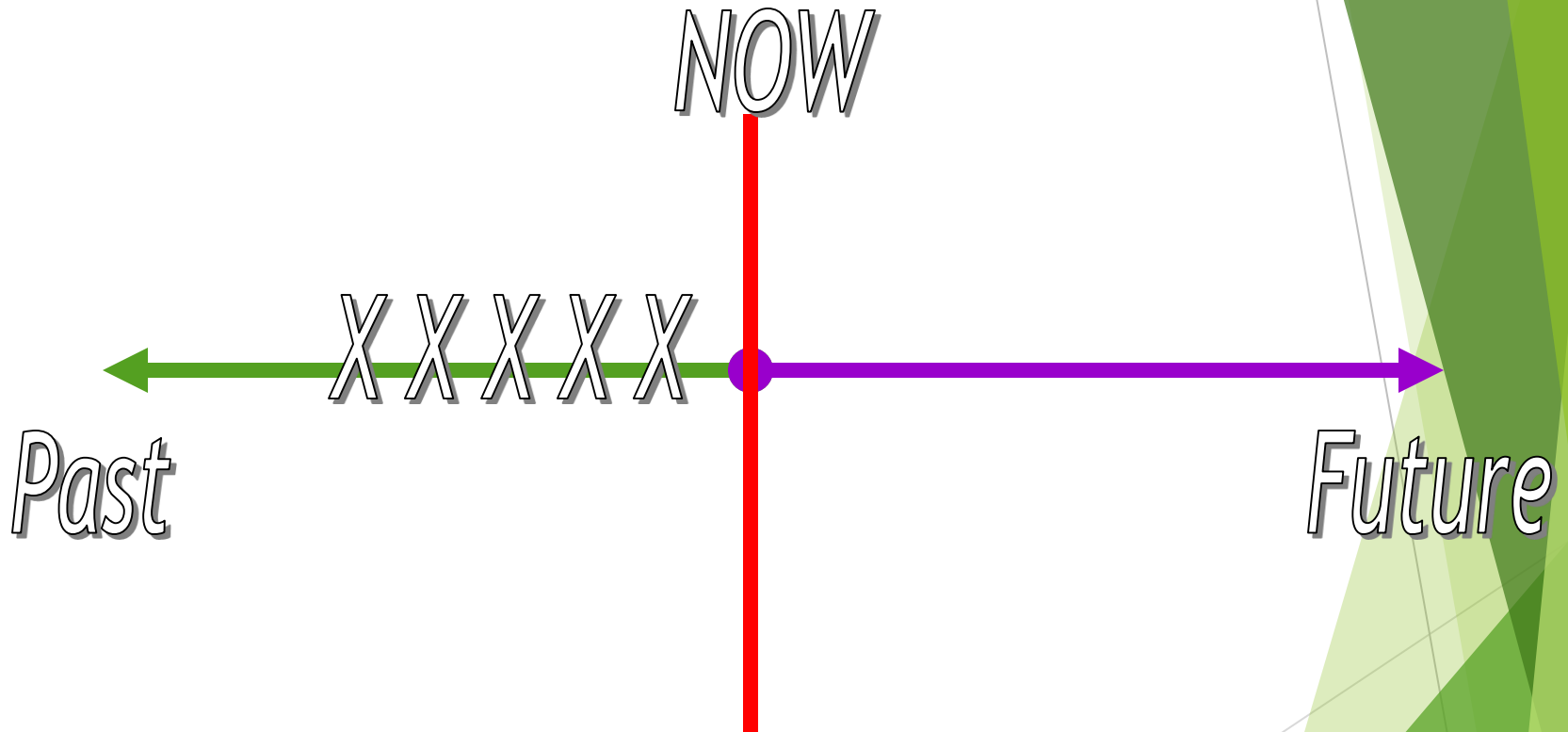
They've grown . . .

Diagram 1--time on a line



Present Perfect Tense

Diagram 2--time on a line



Present Perfect Tense

Task 1: Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb.

1) Kasun (send) me an e-mail.

2) Dilith and Pasan (visit) the museum.

3) They (has/have) already (pack) their bags.

4) Marvan (has/have)..... (have) an accident.

5) We (has/have)..... (do) the shopping for our grandmother.

Simple Past Tense

The simple past expresses an action that has been fully completed in the past . It can also be used for actions taking place one after another or in the middle of another action.

- ▶ The verbs "lived, started, died" are regular past forms. The rule is the following:
- ▶ [Verb + ed] *live lived / start started / die died / visit visited*
- ▶ The verbs "was, wrote" are irregular past forms. "Was" is the simple past of "to be"; "wrote" is the simple past of "write".

The Simple Past Tense is Used:

- ▶ When an activity or situation ***began*** and ***ended*** at a particular time in the past--in other words, when an activity or situation is completed in the past
- ▶ To refer to past habits

Examples

- ▶ (Completed action in the past) He was late to class yesterday.
- ▶ (Completed action in the past) We arrived three weeks ago.
- ▶ (Past habit) She always wrote a letter to her mother on Sunday night.

Indicators

Last night, week, year, month, Saturday, semester, etc.

Yesterday

ago

Simple Past Tense

Form - Regular Verbs

I studied

You studied

S/he/it studied

We studied

They studied

I waited

You waited

S/he/it waited

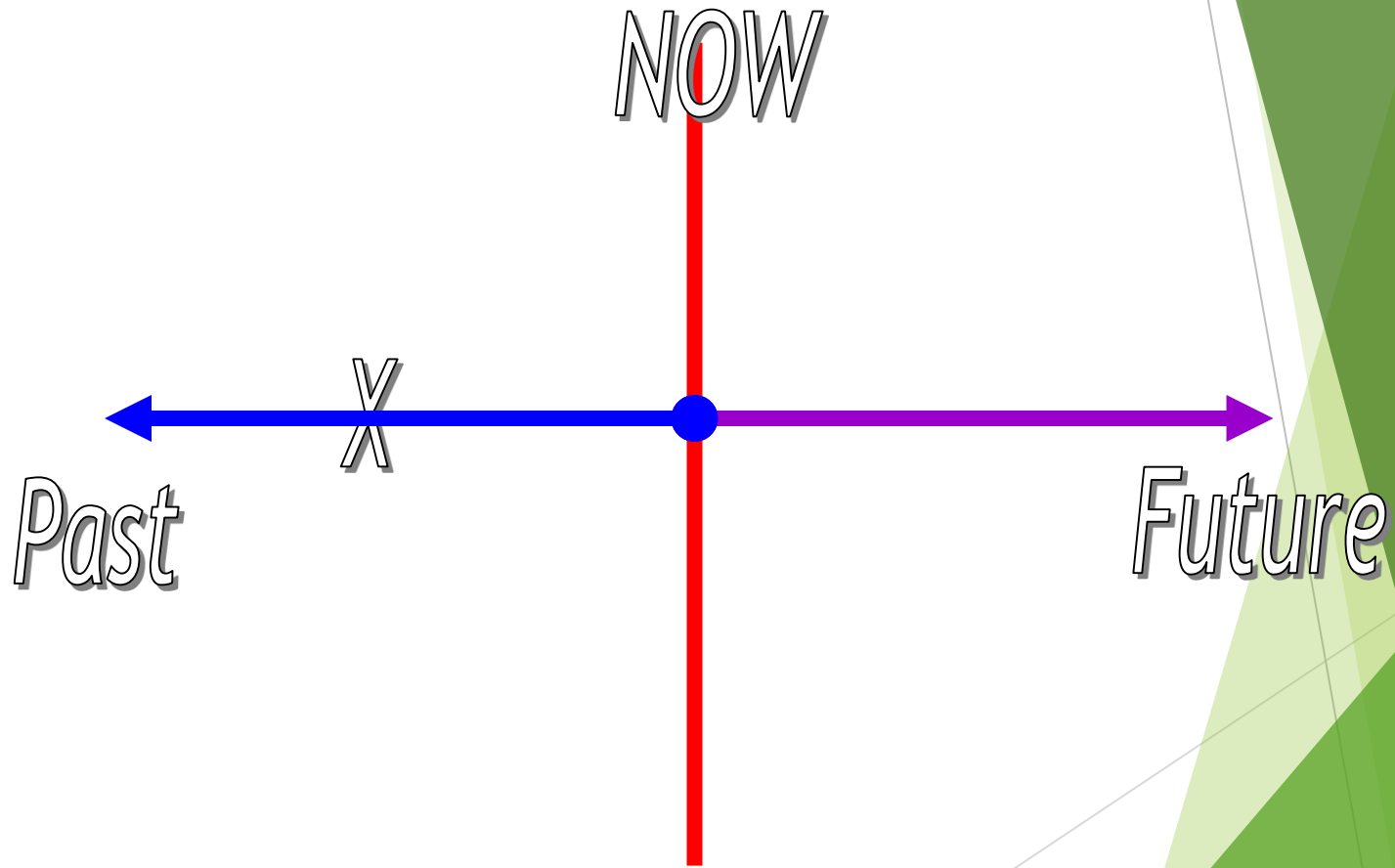
We waited

They waited

Form - Irregular Verbs

Present	Past Simple	Present	Past Simple
be	was / were	begin	began
break	broke	bring	brought
build	built	buy	bought
catch	caught	choose	chose
come	came	cost	cost
cut	cut	do	did
draw	drew	drink	drank
drive	drove	eat	ate
fall	fell	feel	felt
fight	fought	find	found

Diagram--time on a line



Simple Past Tense

The interrogative form of the simple past:

► Did I, you, he, she, it, we, they play / write / do?

The negative form of the simple past:

► I, you, he, she, it, we, they did not/didn't play / write / do

Task 2- Rewrite the sentences into the Simple Past Tense.

- ▶ Jaliya cleans the car.....
- ▶ Bandula climbs on the big mountain.....
- ▶ Mandira cooks the lunch.....
- ▶ She dreams about flying.....
- ▶ She laughs at something.....

Past Progressive

- ▶ This tense is used to refer to activities *continuously* in progress around a time in the past.
- ▶ Example: *They were eating when the taxi arrived.*
- ▶ Form: *was or were + verbing*

Past Progressive / Continuous

Form - [to be (was, were) + infinitive + -ing]

Affirmative sentences:

- ▶ I was playing football. You were playing football.

Negative sentences:

- ▶ I was not (wasn't)playing football.
- ▶ You were not (weren't) playing football.

Questions:

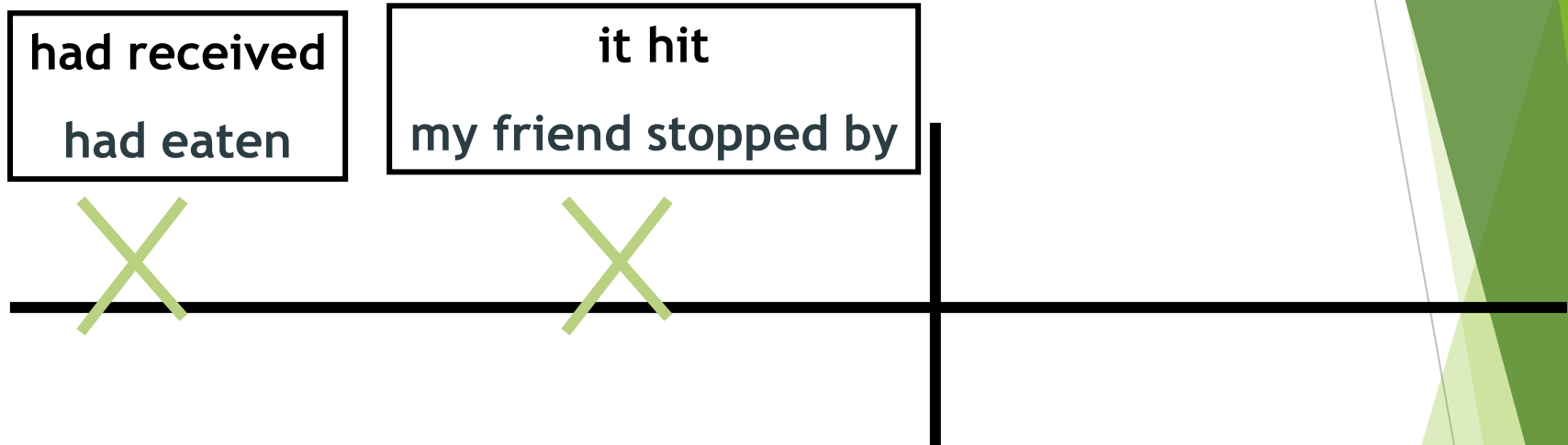
- ▶ Was I playing football? Were you playing football?

Task 1 - Complete the table in past progress

Positive	Negative	Question
It was raining.		
	They were not playing.	
		Was I listening?
	Caron was not eating.	

The Past Perfect

This tense describes completed events that took place in the past before another past event.

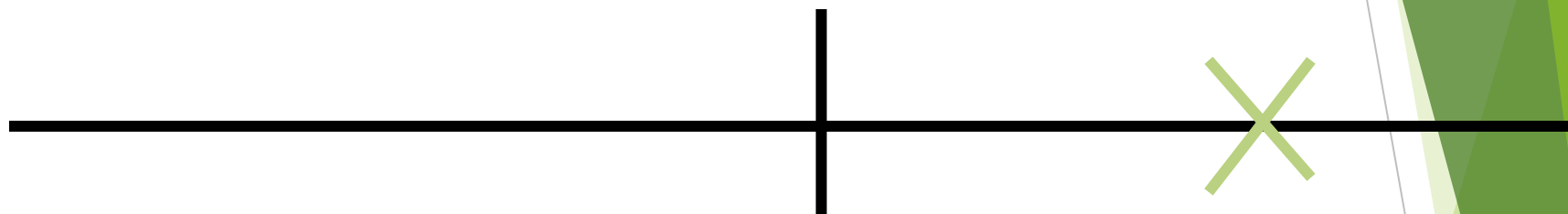


The Titanic had received many warnings before it hit the iceberg.

I had already eaten when my friend stopped by to visit.

The Future

Will and *be + going + to* are often used to describe future actions.



Tharanga will graduate in June.

Mahesh is going to go to Mexico next week.

- ▶ "Will" often suggests that a speaker will do something voluntarily.

Ex: I **will send** you the information when I get it.

- ▶ We use "Be going to" to Express a Plan

Ex: He **is going to spend** his vacation in Hikkaduwa.

Other English Verb Tenses

These tenses are combinations of the tenses we have just reviewed

Past Perfect Progressive

- ▶ This tense is used when an activity was *continuously* in progress **before** a specific time in the past.
- ▶ Example: *I had been thinking about her before she called.*
- ▶ Form: *had + been + verbing*

Present Perfect Progressive

- ▶ This tense is used to describe actions that have been *continuously* in progress **before** now. These actions are not completed.
- ▶ Example: *I have been waiting here for the last two hours.*
- ▶ Form: *have or has + been + verbing*

Future Perfect

- ▶ The future perfect expresses the idea that an activity will occur **before** some future time.
- ▶ Example: *She will have finished dinner before the game starts.*
- ▶ Form: *will + have + past participle*

Future Perfect Progressive

- ▶ This tense is used to refer to activities that will be *continuously* in progress **before** a future time.
- ▶ Example: *He will have been working for 3 hours before you arrive.*
- ▶ Form: *will + have + been + verbing*



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Tenses	Positive	Negative	Question
Present Simple	I prefer my coffee black.	I don't prefer my coffee black.	Do I prefer my coffee black?
Present Continuous	She is listening the music now.	She is not listening the music now.	Is she listening the music now?
Present Perfect	It has rained a lot lately.	It has not rained a lot lately.	Has it rained a lot lately?
Present Perfect Continuous	She has been singing a song.	She has not been singing a song.	Has she been singing a song?
Past Simple	We watch the news last night.	We did not watch the news last night.	Did we watch the news last night?
Past Continuous	I was learning German last year.	I was not learning German last year.	Was I learning German last year?
Past Perfect	He had left when I went to the club.	He had not left when I went to the club.	Had he left when I went to the club?
Past Perfect Continuous	They had been being friend since childhood.	They had not been being friend since childhood.	Had they been being friend since childhood?
Future Simple	They will study math.	They will not study math.	Will they study math?
Future Continuous	They will be loving you.	They will not be loving you.	Will they be loving you?
Future Perfect	By next week, they will have earned lots of money.	By next week, they will not have earned lots of money.	Will they have earned lots of money, by next week?
Future Perfect Continuous	I will have been shopping on Tuesday.	I will not have been shopping on Tuesday.	Will I have been shopping on Tuesday?

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU