

The basic forms of the English verb tenses:

|            | positive                              | negative                              | question                                |
|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| present    | subject + verb (+ s )                 | subject + do / does + not + verb      | (question word +) do / does + subject + |
| simple     | I eat.                                | I don't eat toast.                    | verb?                                   |
| _          | She eats toast.                       | She doesn't eat fish.                 | Do you eat breakfast every day?         |
|            |                                       | -                                     | When does she eat lunch?                |
| present    | subject + am / is / are               | subject + am / is / are + not         | (question word +) am / is / are +       |
| simple     | I am hungry.                          | I'm not hungry.                       | subject?                                |
| with 'be'  | She is in a cafe.                     | She isn't happy.                      | Is he at home?                          |
|            |                                       |                                       | Why are you hungry?                     |
| present    | subject + am / is / are + verb-ing    | subject + am / is / are + not + verb- | (question word +) am / is / are +       |
| continuous | She's eating toast.                   | ing                                   | subject + verb-ing?                     |
|            | They are eating lunch now.            | He isn't eating.                      | When are they eating?                   |
|            |                                       | We are not eating at home.            | Is he eating now?                       |
| present    | subject + have / has + past           | subject + have / has + not + past     | (question word +) have / has + subject  |
| perfect    | participle                            | participle                            | + past participle?                      |
|            | I've eaten breakfast.                 | We haven't eaten yet.                 | What have you eaten today?              |
|            | He has eaten lunch.                   | She hasn't eaten the chocolate.       | Has she eaten lunch?                    |
| present    | subject + have / has + been + verb-   | subject + have / has + not + been +   | (question word +) have / has + subject  |
| perfect    | ing                                   | verb-ing                              | + been + verb-ing?                      |
| continuous | I've been eating.                     | They haven't been eating.             | What has she been eating?               |
|            | She's been eating biscuits all day.   | He has not been eating toast.         | Have they been eating breakfast?        |
| past       | subject + past simple (verb +ed)      | subject + did + not + verb            | (question word +) did + subject + verb? |
| simple     | I ate an apple.                       | She didn't eat anything.              | Did you eat the chocolate?              |
|            | She ate some rice.                    | They did not eat breakfast.           | What did they eat for lunch?            |
| past       | subject + was / were                  | subject + was / were + not            | (question word +) was / were +          |
| simple     | I was hungry.                         | We weren't hungry.                    | subject?                                |
| with 'be'  | They were in a restaurant.            | She wasn't at home.                   | Why was she hungry?                     |
|            |                                       |                                       | Were you hungry?                        |
| past       | subject + was / were + verb-ing       | subject + was / were + not + verb-    | (question word +) was / were + subject  |
| continuous | I was eating.                         | ing                                   | + verb-ing?                             |
|            | They were eating lunch.               | You weren't eating.                   | Where were you eating?                  |
|            |                                       | She wasn't eating a sandwich.         | Was she eating an apple?                |
| past       | subject + had + past participle       | subject + had + not + past participle | (question word +) had + subject + past  |
| perfect    | I had eaten.                          | We hadn't eaten.                      | participle                              |
|            | She'd eaten lunch.                    | He had not eaten an apple.            | Why had you eaten?                      |
|            |                                       |                                       | Had they eaten fish before?             |
| past       | subject + had + been + verb-ing       | subject + had + not + been + verb-    | (question word +) had + subject + been  |
| perfect    | I had been eating chocolate all day.  | ing                                   | + verb-ing?                             |
| continuous | She'd been eating breakfast.          | I hadn't been eating.                 | Why had he been eating?                 |
|            |                                       | She hadn't been eating an apple.      | Had they been eating enough fruit?      |
| future     | subject + will + verb                 | subject + will + not + verb           | (question word +) will + subject +      |
| simple     | I will eat later.                     | We won't eat anything tonight.        | verb?                                   |
|            | She will eat at home.                 | He will not eat fish.                 | What will you eat for lunch?            |
| •          |                                       |                                       | Will she eat meat?                      |
| future     | subject + will + be + verb-ing        | subject + will + not + be + verb-ing  | (question word +) will + subject + be + |
| continuous | I will be eating at 8pm.              | They won't be eating.                 | verb-ing?                               |
|            | She will be eating a sandwich.        | He will not be eating anything.       | What will you be eating?                |
| £-4        |                                       |                                       | Will they be eating at 6pm?             |
| future     | subject + will + have + past          | subject + will + not + have + past    | (question word +) will + subject + have |
| perfect    | participle                            | participle                            | + past participle?                      |
|            | I will have eaten lunch by 3 o'clock. | He won't have eaten lunch yet.        | When will you have eaten?               |
|            | She'll have eaten all the chocolate.  | They will not have eaten their        | Will she have eaten dinner by nine?     |
| £-4        | arkingt ( will ( been ) 1             | sandwiches.                           | (question ground s):!!! 1.* 1           |
| future     | subject + will + have + been +        | subject + will + not + have + been +  | (question word +) will + subject + have |
| perfect    | verb-ing                              | verb-ing                              | + been + verb-ing?                      |
| continuous | They will have been eating fruit.     | I won't have been eating fish.        | What will she have been eating?         |
|            | We'll have been eating all day.       | They will not have been eating        | Will you have been eating chocolate?    |
|            |                                       | lunch.                                |   |