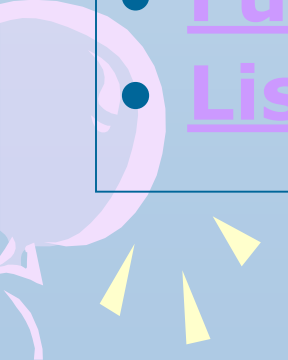




# THE TENSES



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# 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.



# Based on Time frame

The verb tenses may be categorized according to the time frame:

- Present Tense
- Past Tense
- Future Tense

## **Present Tense :---**

Present tense expresses an unchanging, repeated, or reoccurring action or situation that exists only now. It can also represent a widespread truth.

## **Past Tense :---**

Past tense expresses an action or situation that was started and finished in the past.

## **Future Tense :---**

Future tense expresses an action or situation that will occur in the future.

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# Based on Aspect

Verb tenses may also be categorized according to aspect.

**Aspect** refers to the nature of the action described by the verb.

There are four aspects:

- Indefinite or Simple
- Continuous or Progressive
- Perfect or Complete
- Perfect Continuous



# Indefinite Tense

The three **indefinite tenses**, or **simple tenses**, describe an action but do not state whether the action is finished.



## Continuous Tense

The three **continuous tenses**, **incomplete tenses**, or **progressive tenses**, describe an **unfinished** action.



## Perfect Tense

The three **complete tenses**, or **perfect tenses**, describe a **finished** action.

## Perfect Continuous Tense

To combine the complete tenses and the incomplete tenses, to describe an action which **was in progress and then finished**

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# There are twelve possible verb tenses.

## Verb Tenses

```
graph TD; VT[Verb Tenses] --> P[Present]; VT --> Pa[Past]; VT --> F[Future]; P --> PI[Present Indefinite]; P --> PC[Present Continuous]; P --> PP[Present Perfect]; P --> PPC[Present Perfect Cont.]; Pa --> PIP[Past Indefinite]; Pa --> PAC[Past Continuous]; Pa --> PPF[Past Perfect]; Pa --> PPCF[Past Perfect Cont.]; F --> FIF[Future Indefinite]; F --> FFC[Future Continuous]; F --> FFP[Future Perfect]; F --> FFPC[Future Perfect Cont.]
```

### Present

**Present Indefinite**  
**Present Continuous**  
**Present Perfect**  
**Present Perfect Cont.**

### Past

**Past Indefinite**  
**Past Continuous**  
**Past Perfect**  
**Past Perfect Cont.**

### Future

**Future Indefinite**  
**Future Continuous**  
**Future Perfect**  
**Future Perfect Cont.**

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# Here is a list of rules of these tenses:

	<b>Simple Forms</b>	<b>Progressive Forms</b>	<b>Perfect Forms</b>	<b>Perfect Progressive Forms</b>
<b>Present</b>	<b>Ist form + s / es</b>	<b>am/is/are + Ist form + ing</b>	<b>have/has + IIIrd form</b>	<b>have/has been + Ist form + ing</b>
<b>Past</b>	<b>IIInd form</b>	<b>was/were + Ist form + ing</b>	<b>had + IIIrd form</b>	<b>had been + Ist form + ing</b>
<b>Future</b>	<b>will/shall + Ist form</b>	<b>will be + Ist form + ing</b>	<b>will have + IIIrd form</b>	<b>will have been + Ist form + ing</b>

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# Present Tense

Present

Present Indefinite Tense

Present Continuous Tense

Present Perfect Tense

Present Perfect Cont.Tense

# Present Indefinite Tense

The **simple present** is used to describe an action, an event, or condition that is occurring in the present, at the moment of speaking or writing.

For Example—

I play.

He / She plays.

# Present Continuous Tense

The **present continuous** emphasizes the continuing nature of an act, event, or condition.

For Example—

I am playing.

He / She is playing.

They are playing.

# Present Perfect Tense

The **present perfect** tense is used to describe action that began in the past and continues into the present or has just been completed.

For Example—

I have played.

He / She has played.

# Present Perfect Cont.Tense

The **present perfect continuous** is used to describe an action, event, or condition that has begun in the past and continues into the present.

For Example—

I / You have been playing.

He / She has been playing.

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# Past Tense

Past

Past Indefinite Tense

Past Continuous Tense

Past Perfect Tense

Past Perfect Cont.Tense



# Past Indefinite Tense

The **simple past** is used to describe an action, an event, or condition that occurred in the past.



For Example—

I played.

He / She played.







# Past Continuous Tense

The **past continuous** tense is used to describe actions ongoing in the past.



For Example—

I was playing.

He / She was playing.

You were playing.





# Past Perfect Tense

The **past perfect** tense is used to refer to actions that took place and were completed in the past.

For Example—

I had played.

He / She had played.



# Past Perfect Cont.Tense

The **past perfect continuous** is used to indicate that a continuing action in the past began before another past action began or interrupted the first action.

For Example—

I had been playing.

He / She had been playing.



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# Future Tense

Future

Future Indefinite Tense

Future Continuous Tense

Future Perfect Tense

Future Perfect Cont.Tense



# Future Indefinite Tense

The **simple future** is used to refer to actions that will take place after the act of speaking or writing.



For Example—

I shall play.

He / She will play.



# Future Continuous Tense

The **future continuous** tense is used to describe actions ongoing in the future. The future progressive is used to refer to continuing action that will occur in the future.

For Example—

I shall be playing.

He / She will be playing.



# Future Perfect Tense

The **future perfect** is used to refer to an action that will be completed sometime in the future before another action takes place.

For Example—

I shall have played.

He / She will have played.



# Future Perfect Continuous Tense

The **future perfect continuous** tense is used to indicate a continuing action that will be completed at some specified time in the future.

For Example—

I shall have been playing.

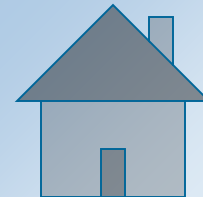
He / She will have been playing.

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**Here is a list of examples of these tenses and their definitions:**



	<b>Simple Forms</b>	<b>Progressive Forms</b>	<b>Perfect Forms</b>	<b>Perfect Progressive Forms</b>
<b>Present</b>	<b>I play</b>	<b>I am playing</b>	<b>I have played</b>	<b>I have been playing</b>
<b>Past</b>	<b>I played</b>	<b>I was playing</b>	<b>I had played</b>	<b>I had been playing</b>
<b>Future</b>	<b>I shall play</b>	<b>I shall be playing</b>	<b>I shall have played</b>	<b>I shall have been playing</b>

