



ENGLISH TENSES and practice on the Internet

PRESENT TENSES

Present simple tense

Use:

- for permanent situations and states
- for repeated/habitual actions
- for permanent truths or laws of nature
- for timetables/programmes
- for reviews/sports/commentaries/dramatic narrative

Present continuous tense

Use:

- for temporary situations
- for actions happening at or around the moment of speaking
- for repeated actions with “always” expressing annoyance or criticism
- for fixed arrangements in the near future
- for changing or developing situations

PRESENT TENSES

Present simple tense

They **work** in an office.

He often **watches** TV.

Where **do you live**?

How much **does it cost**?

We **don't play** the piano.

She **doesn't live** here.

Present continuous tense

It's raining.

I'm having dinner tonight.

What are you doing here?

Where is she acting?

I'm not waiting for you.

She isn't driving now.

PAST TENSES

Past simple tense

Use:

- past actions which happened one after the other
- past habit or state
- actions which happened at a definite past time although the time is not mentioned

Past continuous tense

Use:

- for action in the middle of happening at a stated past time
- for past action in progress interrupted by another past action. the shorter action is in the past simple and the longer in the past continuous.
- for two or more simultaneous past actions

PAST TENSES

Past simple tense

She **sealed** the letter.

They **put** a stamp.

When did you call?

Did she write that song?

We didn't say a word.

He didn't see her.

Past continuous tense

He **was playing** tennis.

We **were swimming**.

Was she flying to Paris?

Were they having a party?

The sun **wasn't shining**.

They **weren't listening** to her.

FUTURE TENSES

Future simple (will)

Use:

- for decisions taken at the moment of speaking
- for hopes, fears, threats, offers, promises, requests, comments, etc.
- for actions or predictions which may (not) happen in the future
- for things we are not sure about or haven't decided yet

Be going to

Use:

- for actions intended to be performed in the near future
- for planned actions or intentions
- for evidence that something will definitely happen in the near future
- for things we are sure about or we have already decided to do in the near future

FUTURE TENSES

Future simple (will)

I will turn on the light.

She will be late.

Will she buy that dress?

Will you go home?

They won't be afraid.

I won't probably be promoted.

Be going to

She is going to visit her parents tomorrow.

We are going to have a course.

Are you going to have a baby?

Is it going to rain?

They aren't going to live in a new house.

She isn't going to paint a picture.

PRESENT PERFECT TENSES

Present perfect simple

Use:

- for recently completed actions
- for actions which happened at an unstated past time and are connected with the present
- for personal experiences/changes which have happened
- for emphasis on number

Present perfect continuous

Use:

- for actions started in the past and continuing up to the present
- for past actions of certain duration having visible results or effects in the present
- for actions expressing anger, irritation, annoyance, explanation or criticism
- for emphasis on duration (for, since, how long)

PRESENT PERFECT TENSES

Present perfect simple

She has tidied her room.

We have lost 10 kilos.

Where has he lost his keys?

Have we taken a medicine?

He hasn't called at three o'clock.

We haven't got the letter.

Present perfect continuous

He has been writing a letter for
two hours.

We have been climbing.

Has she been crying?

Who has been using my
toothbrush?

They haven't been calling since
this morning.

He hasn't been redecorating the
room.

PAST PERFECT TENSES

Past perfect simple

Use:

- for past action which occurred before another action or before a stated past time
- for complete past action which had visible results in the past
- the Past perfect is the past equivalent of the Present perfect

Present perfect continuous

Use:

- for action continuing over a period up to a specific time in the past
- for past action of certain duration which had visible results in the past
- the Past perfect continuous is the past equivalent of the Present perfect continuous

PAST PERFECT TENSES

Past perfect simple

She **had left** by the time I got there.

They were sad because they **had failed** the test.

Had he tried to find his keys?

Where **had** they gone?

She **hadn't finished** by two.

The party **hadn't started** by the time I arrived.

Present perfect continuous

She **had been working** as a clerk for 10 years before she resigned.

They were wet because they **had been walking** in the rain.

How long **had** her leg been aching?

Had you been trying to find a job?

I **hadn't been cooking**.

We **hadn't been working** on the computer.

FUTURE PERFECT TENSES

Future perfect simple tense

Use:

- for actions which will be finished before a stated future time

Future perfect continuous tense

Use:

- for duration of an action which up to a certain time in the future

*Future continuous

Use:

- for the actions in progress at a stated future time
- for actions which are the result of a routine

FUTURE PERFECT TENSES

Future perfect simple tense

She will have come back by
the end of July.

Will you have finished untill
midnight?

They won't have finished
until 8 o'clock.

Future perfect continuous tense

By the end of this year she
will have been working
here for two years.

Will she have been driving for
five hours.

They won't have been
playing cricket for eight
hours.

PASSIVE VOICE

ACTIVE

They send an invitation.
They are sending an invitation.
They sent an invitation.
They are sending an invitation.
They will send an invitation.
They have sent an invitation.
They had sent an invitation.
They will have sent an invitation.
They will have to send an invitation.
They ought to have sent an invitation.
They must send an invitation.

PASSIVE

An invitation is sent.
An invitation is being sent.
An invitation was sent.
An invitation was being sent.
An invitation will be sent.
An invitation has been sent.
An invitation had been sent.
An invitation will have been sent.
An invitation will have to be sent.
An invitation ought to have been sent.
An invitation must be sent.

PRACTICE ON THE INTERNET

1st step

Study the theory about english tenses.

Try to remember when the certain tense is used and how s it formed.

PRACTICE ON THE INTERNET

2nd step

1. On the Internet type e.g.
grammar + english + exercises
or
2. The exact name of the tense

PRACTICE ON THE INTERNET

3rd step

Choose the level and do the exercises.

There are many different kinds of exercises.

For example:


- you have to match the items on the right to the items on the left
- to complete the crosswords
- fill in the gaps
- tick the correct answer etc.

PRACTICE ON THE INTERNET

4th step

If you don't know the correct answer you can use option "Hint", which can give you an idea of the correct answer.

After you have finished the exercise, check it and score it and you will find out how much more practice do you need.



GOOD LUCK
WITH YOUR ENGLISH TENSES