

▣ Present Tenses ▣

⊕ Present Simple

Used to describe universally accepted fact – express General truth.

Sentence Form: [infinitive form of verb] + s

e.g. : The Sun **rises** on east. She **speaks** four languages.

Used to express an action which happens again and again – habit.

Sentence Form: [go/goes or do/does or ...] + [infinitive form of verb]

Sentence Form: [have]

e.g. : He **goes** for a **walk** every evening. I usually **have** lunch at two.

Used to express a fact, that stays the same for a long time – state.

Sentence Form: [infinitive form of verb]

e.g. : You **eat** too much. They **play** Rugby very good.

Used especially for timetables – expressing future.

Sentence Form: [infinitive form of verb] + s

e.g. : The train **leaves** at 11.00. The bus from Vršič **arrives** in Mojstrana at 12.00.

It's also used with verbs of mind (**know, think...**), verbs of emotion or feeling (**love, like...**), verbs of the five senses (**see, smell, taste, hear, touch**), verbs of possession (**owns, belongs,...**), certain other verbs (**needed, cost, depend, contains, consist, seem**).

⊕ Present Continuous

Used for describing an activity which is going on at the moment of speaking.

Sentence Form: [am/is/are] + [infinitive form of verb]+ing

e.g. : She is **watching** a soap opera on TV. I am **doing** my homework.

Used to express an activity which is happening around the time of speaking, but not necessarily exactly at the time of speaking.

Sentence Form: [am/is/are] + [infinitive form of verb]+ing

e.g. : His mother in law is **studying** medicine. Jonas is **writing** a comics book.

Used to announce future arrangements.

Sentence Form: [am/is/are] + [getting] + [infinitive form of verb]+ing

e.g. : Britney and I are **getting married** in the spring.

▣ Present Perfect Tenses ▣

⊕ Present Perfect Simple

Expresses an action which happened in the past and is finished, but it does not matter when. We are interested in the result of the action not in the action itself.

Sentence Form: [have/has] + [past participle form of verb]

e.g. : She **has read** the book. We **have seen** the movie. He **has painted** the ceiling.

Used to express how much we have done, how many things we have done, or how many times we have done something.

Sentence Form: [have/has] + [past participle form of verb] + [number]

e.g. : Ann **has written ten** letters today. Ally **has failed** the exam **five times**.

Used to express an action or state which results can stretch into the present.

Sentence Form: [have/has] + [past participle form of verb] + [number]

e.g. : Who **has closed** the window? I **have hanged up** her coat.

By using present perfect simple we usually express **unfinished past**, **present result** or **present experience**.

⊕ Present Perfect Continuous

Used to express a long action which has begun in the past and has recently stopped or just stopped.

Sentence Form: [have/has] + [been] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing

e.g. : I **have been watching** TV for an hour. How long **have** you **been learning**

e.g. : English? I **have been learning** English since September, but it is not over yet.

Also used to ask or say how long something has been happening. This time the action or situation began in the past and is still happening or has just stopped.

Sentence Form: [have/has] + [been] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing + [for/since]

e.g. : It **has been raining for** two hours.

It is often used with **how long**, **for** and **since**, it can also be used for **repeated actions over a period of time**.

e.g. : She **has been playing** tennis **since 1980**. How long **have** you **been smoking**?

▣ Past Tenses ▣

⊕ Past Simple

Used to express an action which happened at a specific time in the past and is now finished – mostly used to tell a story.

Sentence Form: [did/didn't] + [past tense form of verb]

Sentence Form: [past tense form of verb]

e.g. : He **did not pay** the bill yesterday. **Did** you **speak** to him last night?

e.g. : I **met** her two weeks ago in shopping centre.

⊕ Past Continuous

Used to express an activity that was happening at a particular time in the past.

Sentence Form: [was/were] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing

e.g. : They **were playing** cards all night. Peter and I **were skiing** last Sunday.

Used to express an activity that is interrupted - using past simple and past continuous together to express an interrupt that happened while we were doing something else.

Sentence

Form: [was/were] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing + [past tense form of verb]

e.g. : I **was watching** television **when he came** home.

e.g. : While he **was watering** the garden, **it began** to rain.

Past tense continuous is very usefull when dealing with **descriptions**.

▣ Past Perfect Tenses ▣

⊕ Past Perfect Simple

Used to express an action which happened before a definite time in the past.

Using past perfect simple a story is told in chronological order.

Sentence Form: [had/hadn't] + [past tense form of verb]

e.g. : She **had left** before I arrived. The president **had vanished** after the speech.

⊕ Past Perfect Continuous

Used to say how long something had been happening before something else happened

Sentence Form: [had/hadn't] + [been] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing

e.g. : Ken **had been smoking for** 30 years when he finally **gave it up**.

e.g. : She **had been crying for** a long time, before **he came**.

Also used to express a longer activity that had been going on continuously up to a definite time in the past.

▣ Future Tenses ▣

⊕ Will Future

Used to express future intention, plan or prediction at the time of speaking.

Sentence Form: [will] + [infinitive form of verb]

e.g. : It **will** rain tomorrow. Those trees **will** fall down after the first rain.

⊕ Goin To Future

It expresses a future intention, plan or decision before the moment of speaking.

It also expresses a future event for which there is some evidence now.

Sentence Form: [going to be] + [infinitive form of verb]

e.g. : He is **going to be** a pilot in the Air Force.

⊕ Future Simple

Used to express an activity that will happen at a specific time in the future.

Sentence Form: [will have] + [infinitive form of verb]

e.g. : I **will have** a break at 8.00. (exactly at 8.00)

⊕ Future Continuous

Used to express an activity that will be in progress at a specific time in the future.

Sentence Form: [will be] + [infinitive form of verb] + ing

e.g. : I **will be having** a break at 8 am.

e.g. : She **will be playing** tennis tomorrow morning.

▣ Future Perfect Tenses ▣

⊕ Future Perfect

Used to express an action that will be finished before a definite time in the future, but it is not known exactly when the action will happen. It is only known that it will happen before a certain time.

Sentence Form: [will have] + [past tense form of verb]

e.g. : I **will have had** a break at 8 am.

e.g. : By the year 2000, the population of the world **will have reached** six billion.

▣ Exceptions ▣

Some verbs are used only in simple tenses. Here is a list of verbs which are not normally used in continuous tenses:

- want
- like
- belong
- know
- suppose
- remember
- need
- love
- see
- realize
- mean
- forget
- prefer
- hate
- hear
- believe
- understand
- seem
- have (*when the meaning is "posses"*)
- think (*when the meaning is "believe"*)