

PRESENT SIMPLE

TO BE

VERBS

0

S + am/is/are + predicate...

S + verb + object...

S + am/is/are + not + predicate...

S + don't/doesn't + verb + object...

?

Am/Is/ Are + S + predicate?

Do/ Does + S + verb + object?

Usage

Example

Express general truth

The sun rises in the east.

Habits

I play badminton every Tuesday.

Future timetables

Our train leaves at 9 am.

Future after "when", "until"...

I won't go out until it stops raining.

Permanent situations

He works in a bank.

For newspaper headlines

Man enters space.

With non-progressive

I believe that you are innocent.

When telling stories

Suddenly, the window opens and a masked man enters.

For giving directions and instructions

First of all, you break the eggs and whisk with sugar.



PAST SIMPLE TENSE

TO BE

S + Was/were

They were friends.

S + was not/were not + ...

They weren't friends.

Was/Were + S + ...?

They weren't friends.

VERBS

S + V-ed

She work yesterday.

S + did not + verb (base form)

She didn't work yesterday.

Did + S + verb (in base form)?

Did she work yesterday?

Usage

To express completed action in the past

To describe a series of completed actions in the past

To express habits in the past

For stative verbs (have (own), be, think (believe), know, dislike, need, owe, wish

Example

I saw a ghost last Friday.

I finished work, walked to the beach, and found a nice place to swim.

When I was young, I watched lots of television every day after school.

He had a small cottage in the woods.



Simple Future Tense



S+will/shall + V(bare form)

I will go to Thailand.

S + will not/won't + V(Base form)

I will not go to Thailand.

Will + S + V(Base form) + ...?

Will you go to Thailand?

Usage

Example

For actions decided at the moment of speech

I have a toothache. I'll take a medicine.

For unplanned future actions

Winter will come soon.

For offering, asking for a request promising, ordering, threatening

I'm afraid we will get wet.

For unpreventable actions in future

Summer will come soon.

With conditional, time and purpose clauses

When I arrive at home, I will call you.

For thoughts, predictions, assumptions, sureness, fears about future

I promise I won't tell this anyone.



PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE



S + am/is/are + V-ing +....
He is playing.

S + am/is/are (not) + V-ing +.... He isn't playing.

Am/is/are + S + V-ing +...?
Is he playing?

Usage

Example

Describe something which is happening at the exact moment of speech.

Jim is watching television at the moment.

Describe an action that is taking place now but not at the exact moment of speech.

John is working in London.

Describe an event planned in the future.

I'm taking my French class on Tuesday.

To describe a temporary situation.

I'm staying with a friend for a few days.

To emphasize the frequency of an action.

That child is always crying for no good reason.

To describe changing situations.

Her health is improving by leaps and bounds.



Past Continuous Tense

0

S + was/were + V-ing

She was cooking all the morning.

S + was/were + not + V-ing

She was not sleeping when he came home.

?

Was/were + S + V-ing?

Was she sleeping when he came home?

Usage

Example

To describe parallel actions

While I was washing the dishes, I heard a loud noise.

To describe what someone was doing at a particular point in time

I was working in the garden all day yesterday.

To express interrupted action in the past

I was driving to work when I crashed my car.

To describe repetition and irritation

He was always complaining in class.



FUTURE CONTINUOUS TENSE



S + will + be + V-ing (present participle)

I will be singing in the concert tomorrow.





S + will + not + be + V-ing (present participle)

I will not be singing in the concert tomorrow.



Will + S + be + V-ing? (present participle)

Will you be singing in the concert tomorrow?

Usage

Example

To describe interrupted actions in the future

When you come tomorrow, they will be playing tennis.

To express actions in progress at a specific time in the future At 12 o'clock tomorrow, we will be having lunch at school.

To refer to actions that are happening now and expected to continue in the future Unfortunately, sea levels will still be rising in 20 years.

To ask a question politely about the future

Will you be bringing your friend to the party tonight?

To emphasize future plans and intentions

He'll be coming to visit us next week.

To describe atmosphere in the future

When I arrive at the party everybody will be celebrating, some will be dancing.

To express parallel actions or series of parallel actions in the future She will be watching TV, and he will be cooking dinner.



PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

0

S + have/has + past participle
I have tried sushi.

S + have not (haven't)/has not (hasn't) + past participle

I have not tried sushi.

0

Have/Has + subject + past participle?

Have you tried sushi?

Usage

Example

To express things you have done in your life

She has never studied Japanese.

To express number of times you have done something

How many times have you tried to call her?

To describe recently completed actions which are important now

I have some bad news. I've lost my job.

To express situations that started in the past and are still true

I've known James for 4 or 5 years.

To describe unfinished actions or situations

I've read half of the book.

To express present result

John has missed the bus, so he'll be late.



PAST PERFECT TENSE

0

S + had + past participle + ...

She had finished the test.

S + had not/hadn't + past participle + ...

She hadn't finished the test.

8

Had + S + past participle + ...?

Had she finished the test?

Usage

Example

To describe an action finished before another past action

Richard had gone out when his wife arrived in the office.

Describe an action that happened before a specific time in the past

Christine had never been to an opera before last night.

To describe cause and effect (combine with Past Simple)

I got stuck in traffic because there had been an accident.

To emphasize the result of an activity in the past

I had been to London twice by the time I got a job in New York.



FUTURE PERFECT TENSE



S + will + have + past participle + ...

He will have done it by this evening.



S + will + not + have + past participle + ...

He will not have done it by this evening.

Will + S + have + past participle + ...

Will he have done it by this evening?

Usage

Example

To talk about an action that will finish before a certain time in the future, but we don't know exactly when

By this time tomorrow night we will have arrived in Australia.

To talk about an action that will be completed before another event takes place

She will have learnt the Chinese before she moves to China.

To express conviction that something happened in the near past The guests will have arrived at the hotel by now.



Present Perfect Continuous Tense

0

S + have/has + been + V-ing

They have been learning English for 2 years.

S + have/has + not + been + V-ing

They have not been learning English for 2 years.

8

Have/has + S + been + V-ing

Have they been learning English for 2 years?

Usage

Example

Express long actions that started in the past and continue until now

I've been living in Ireland for almost 4 years.

Express recent actions that have clear evidence or results now

Her eyes are red because she's been crying all evening.

Typically used for shorter, more temporary situations

Have they been learning English this week?



PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE



S + had + been + V-ing

They had been playing tennis.



S + had not/hadn't + been +V-ing

They hadn't been playing tennis.



Had + S + been + V-ing?

Had they been playing tennis?

Usage

Example

To describe a past action, already started and continued up to another action or time in the past

The boys had been playing soccer for about an hour when it started to rain.

To express the duration before something in the past Richard needed a holiday because he had been working hard for six months.

To describe the cause of something in the past

He was tired because he had been jogging.



FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

0

S + will + have + been + V-ing...

I will have been eating vegetables for three months.



S + will + not + have + been + V-ing...

I won't have been eating vegetables for three months.



Will + S + have + been + V-ing ...?

Will you have been eating vegetables for three months?

Usage

Example

To show that something will continue up until a particular event or time in the future James will have been teaching at the university for more than a year by the time he leaves for Asia.

To talk about something that finishes just before another time or action

I will be tired when I get home because I will have been walking for over an hour.



PRESENT SIMPLE & PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Present Simple



Present Continuous



S + verb

S + am/is/are (not) + V-ing

Express general truths

E.g. It rarely rains in the desert.

Indicate present habits

E.g. The birds return to the island every morning.

Express timetable events

E.g. The plane to London takes off at 6:30 a.m.

Indicate permanent states

E.g. I like the new James Bond film.

Describe actions happening now

E.g. She is reading a newspaper upstairs.

Express annoying habits (+ always)

E.g. You're always forgetting to pay the bills.

Describe future arrangements (informal

E.g. She's getting married on 3 November.

Express temporary states

E.g. She's working at the museum until the end of this month.



& PRESENT PERFECT PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Present Perfect



Present Perfect Continuous



S + have/has + V3

S + have/has + been + V-ing

Finished actions

Unfinished actions

E.g. The kids have played for 2 hours

E.g. The kids have been playing since morning.

Permanent actions

Temporary actions

E.g. I have taught English for 12 years.

E.g. I have been teaching this class for one hour.

Emphasize the result of the action

Emphasize the duration of the action

E.g. He has repaired the car.

E.g. He has been repairing the car for 2 hours.

Indicate how much/how many

Indicate how much/how many in an ongoing process

E.g. It has taken six years to write this book.

E.g: He has been studying English for two months.



PAST SIMPLE & PRESENT PERFECT

PAST SIMPLE



PRESENT PERFECT

S + V-ed

S + have/has + V-ed

Express finished time

Describe unfinished time

E.g. We lived in Japan from 1995 to 1998.

E.g. I've worked as a teacher since 2011.

Refer to definite time

Refer to indefinite time

E.g. I saw the Eiffel Tower in 2007.

E.g. I have seen the Eiffel Tower.

Indicate series of finished actions

Express experience or result

E.g. First he read the book, and then he watched the movie. E.g. She has already watched this movie 3 times.



PAST PERFECT VS. PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS







Had + Past Participle

 Express a past action, already finished when another past action happened

E.g. I met them after they had divorced each other.

Emphasize the result of an activity in the past

E.g. I had been to London twice by the time I got a job in New York.

 Show two events in the past that are linked

E.g. I couldn't take my flight because I had forgotten my boarding pass.

Had been + V-ing

 Describe a past action which started in the past and continued to happen after another action or time in the past

E.g. Sara had been working here for two weeks when she had the accident.

Emphasize the duration of an activity in the past

E.g. Richard needed a holiday because he had been working hard for six months.

Show the cause of a past action

E.g. I had been travelling all night, so I was tired.



WILL vs. GOING TO



WILL



GOING TO

 Express future actions decided at the moment of speaking (immediate decision)

E.g: I'll have salad now.

Express a prediction based on personal opinions or experiences

E.g: I think United will win the game.

Express a future fact



E.g: The sun will rise tomorrow.

Express future plans decided before the moment of speaking (prior plans)

E.g: I'm going to visit my aunt next Friday.

 Express a prediction based on present evidence

E.g: Look at those black clouds. It is going to rain.

 Express that something is about to happen

E.g: Get back! The bomb is going to explode.

Both Will and Going to can be used for making future predictions without having a real difference in meaning.

E.g: I think it will be foggy tomorrow. = I think it is going to be foggy tomorrow.



PAST SIMPLE & PRESENT PERFECT

PAST SIMPLE



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