

Review of Tenses

Tense	Form	Use	Time Expressions
Present Simple	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject + Verb (s) They work</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+ do/does+not +base verb They do not work</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Do/Does +Subject+ base verb? Do they work?</p>	<p>1. to talk about general truth or fact The sun rises in the east</p> <p>2. to talk about habits He often visits his friends</p> <p>3. to talk about future plans (with future time expression); often refers to timetables or programs The new program begins next week.</p>	<p>*Every day /week</p> <p>*Once a year</p> <p>*Once a month</p> <p>Or</p> <p>* always, often, usually, generally, sometimes, occasionally, seldom, never</p>
Present Progressive	<p><u>Positive :</u> Subject + am/is/are + verbing They are working</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+am/is/are+not+verbing They are not working</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Am/Is/Are + subject+ verbing? Are they working/</p>	<p>1. to talk about incomplete actions happening at the moment of speaking (often with now, at the moment) We are discussing the problem right now.</p> <p>2. to talk about a plan in the near future ; usually with a future time expression. She is giving a party tonight</p> <p>3. to complain about actions that are repeated regularly and are annoying; usually with the words always or forever He is always losing his glasses</p>	<p>*now, right now, at the moment</p>
Past Simple	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject + V2 He talked</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+did not+base verb He did not talk to me</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Did+subject+base verb? Did he talk to you?</p>	<p>1. to refer to an action that took place and was completed at a definite point in the past. They traveled to Paris last night.</p> <p>2. to tell a story in which one thing happened after another. He walked into the room and noticed that it was unusually dark.</p>	<p>* last week/month</p> <p>* a week/ month ago</p> <p>* yesterday</p> <p>* in 1990</p>
Past Progressive	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject+was/were+ verbing I was walking</p> <p><u>Neg.:</u> Subject+was/were+not+ verbing I was not walking</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Was/Were+subject+verbing? Was he talking?</p>	<p>1. to talk about an action that was in progress at a specific time in the past I was washing the car yesterday at 5pm.</p> <p>2. to describe two actions happening at the same time in the past (While) While you were washing the car, I was trying to phone you.</p> <p>3. to talk about two actions; the longer in the past progressive and</p>	<p>* while/as/ * during</p>

		<p>the shorter in past simple. He was typing the letter when the electricity went off.</p>	
Present Perfect Simple	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject+ have/has+ V3 We have seen that film</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+ have/has+not+V3 We have not seen that film</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Have/Has+subject+V3? Have you seen that film?</p>	<p>1. to talk about actions that happened in the past, but still connected to the present . Time is unknown or not important. e.g. She has played piano before.</p> <p>2. to talk about an action that happened several times in the past e.g. I have told you several times not to worry</p> <p>3. to talk about actions which started in the past and continue in the present. (for, since) e.g. She he has lived here since 2005. e.g. She has lived here for two years.</p>	<p>1. several times, over and over</p> <p>2. for, since</p> <p>3. a. just, ever, never : before V3 .</p> <p>b. lately, recently: at the end of the sentence.</p> <p>4. yet, already</p>
Present Perfect Progressive	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject+have/has+been +verbing I have been working</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+have/has+not+been+verbing I have not been working</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Have/Has+subject+been +verbing? Have you been working?</p>	<p>1. to talk about actions which began in the past and continue to the present without stopping/has not been interrupted and is likely to continue. e.g. They have been taking tests all morning. They have been living here for 5 years.</p>	<p>*for, since, the whole day, the whole morning.=</p>
Past Perfect Simple	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject+had+V3 I had cleaned the house by 9pm.</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+had+not+V3 I had not cleaned the house by 9pm.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Had+subject+V3? Had you cleaned the house by 9pm?</p>	<p>to talk about an action that began and ended before another action in the past (First action: past perfect simple) ;(Later action: past simple)</p> <p>e.g. I found the pen I had lost When she had saved enough money, she bought a new car.</p>	<p>* when, by the time</p> <p>* after, before</p>
Past Perfect Progressive	<p><u>Positive:</u> Subject+ had+been+verbing He had been reading for an hour when...</p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Subject+had+not+been+verbing _He had been reading for an hour when...</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Had+subject+been+verbing? Had you been reading for an hour?</p>	<p>to talk about an action that started before another action in the past . e.g. When the students entered the lecture hall, the students had been talking for ten minutes.</p>	

Future Simple	Positive: Subject+will+verb Negative: Subject+will+not+verb Question: Will+subject+verb?	to talk about an action that will take place in the future e.g. Next week I will travel to the States	
Future Progressive	Positive: Subject+will+ be +verbing Negative: Subject+will+ be+not +verbing Question: Will+subject+be+verbing?	to talk about an action that will be going on in the future e.g. We will be eating at the restaurant by 7 o'clock	
Future Perfect Simple	Positive: Subject+will+have+V3 Negative: Subject+will+not+have+V3 Question: Will+subject+have+V3	to talk about an action that will be completed by some point in the future e.g. Dan will have finished the project by the end of next month	

Stative Verbs

Note that not all verbs can be used in progressive tenses. These are called stative verbs and caution should be exercised when using the verbs in the categories below. NOTE that these verbs are more appropriately used in the simple tenses.

1. **Verbs of sense perception:**
see, hear, smell, taste, feel.
 2. **Verbs which denote mental activities and feelings:**
know, understand, mean, believe, like, dislike, prefer, doubt, etc.
 3. **Verbs which refer to a state of being or relationship**
be, consist, contain, involve, matter, have, own, possess, belong, equal, suffice, etc.
- This is not a comprehensive list of the stative verbs.