



THE TENSES

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features a yellow sun with rays at the top, a white balloon with a yellow ribbon in the middle, and a purple balloon with yellow rays at the bottom. The background is a light blue gradient.

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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

Present

Past

Future

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

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

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

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Here is a list of rules of these tenses:

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

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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—

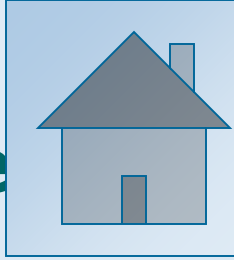
I shall have been playing.

He / She will have been playing.



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



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