

16 TENSES IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR

(FORMULA AND EXAMPLES)

Verb Tenses are different forms of verbs describing something happened in the past, happening at present or will happen in future. By expanding these three forms, you will learn 16 tenses in all.

There are three main types of [verb tenses](#) past, present and future.

PRESENT TENSE

Present tense shows the current action that is going to be performed. It has further four types which are briefly described here.

1. Simple Present Tense

Structure:

Subject + Verb (vI) + es/es

Examples:

1. I take **exercise** daily.
2. She **reads** book in library.

2. Present Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + is/am/are + Verb(+ing)

Example:

1. He **is playing** football.
2. I **am studying** in a high school.

3. Present Perfect Tense

Structure:

Subject + Has/have + Verb (v3)

Example:

1. He **has made** this colorful chart.
2. I **have completed** my assignment.

4. Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + Has/have + been + Verb(+ing)

Example:

1. I **have been completing** my assignment **for** the last three days.
2. She **has been working** in this department **since** 2017.

PAST TENSE

Past tense expresses the actions that happened in the past. It has also four types.

5. Simple Past Tense

Structure:

Subject + Verb (v2) or irregular verb:

Example:

1. He **completed** the assignment.
2. I **read** the newspaper.

6. Past Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + was/were + Verb(+ing)

Example:

1. He **was reading** the book.
2. I **was going** to the park for morning walk.

7. Past Perfect Tense

Structure:

Subject + had + Verb (v3)

Example:

1. I had **finished** my home work.
2. He had **completed** his task.

8. Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + had + been + Verb(+ing)

Example:

1. He **had been completing** his assignment **for** the last two hours.
2. I **had been playing** football **since** morning.

FUTURE TENSE

Future tense shows the actions that have not happened yet OR "the actions that will likely to happen in future". Its four types are described here.

9. Simple Future Tense

Structure:

Subject+ will/shall+ verb(v1)

Example:

1. I **shall go** to park for a walk.
2. She **will perform** his duty.

10. Future Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + will be/shall be + verb(+ing)

Example:

1. He **will be playing** football.
2. We **shall be eating** meal.

11. Future Perfect Tense

Structure:

Subject + will have + verb(v3)

Example:

1. He **will have played** football.
2. I **will have completed** my assignment.

12. Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + will have been + verb(+ing)

Example:

He **will have been watching** the football match **for** over fifty minutes.

13. Past Future Tense**Structure:**

Subject + would + verb (v1)

Example:

I told that I **would leave** in one hour.

14. Past Future Continuous Tense**Structure:**

Subject + should be/would be + Verb(+ing)

Example:

I told that I **would be doing** my homework all the day long.

15. Past Future Perfect Tense**Structure:**

Subject + should have/ would have + Verb(v3)

Example:

She said that she **would have completed** her assignment.

16. Past Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Structure:

Subject + would have been + Verb(+ing)

Example:

He said that I **should have been working** here **for** two hours by that time.