

Definition of tenses

1. Simple present tense:

- indicates an action that is generally true or habitual.

i.e., it took place in the past, continues to take place in the present and will take place in the future.

2. Simple past tense:

- indicates an action took place **before** the present moment and that has no real connection with the present time.

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3. Simple future tense:

- indicates an action that will take place **after** the present time and has no real connection with the present time.
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eg: She will visit the doctor tomorrow.

4. Present perfect tense:

- indicates a **link** between the present and the past.
- it describes an action that began in the past.
- often, the action being described is still

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5. Past perfect tense

- refers to a time earlier than before now.
- It is used to make it clear that one event happened before another in the past.

eg: Madhu **had gone** out when I **arrived** in the office.

6. Future perfect tense:

- indicates action that are completed or finished
- these actions have not yet occurred but will occur and be finished in the future.

eg: By the time you finish dinner, I **will have**

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7. Present continuous tense

- indicates that an action or condition is happening now and may continue into the future.

8. Past continuous tense

- it refers to a continuing action or state that was happening at some point in the past.

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9. Future continuous tense

- indicates that something will occur in the future and continue for an expected length of time.

10. Present perfect continuous tense

- it shows that something started in the past and it continuing at the present time.

eg: I **have been teaching** grammar for the past one

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1 1. Past perfect continuous tense

- it shows that an action that started in the past continued up until another time in the past.

eg: Pavithra **had been walking** four miles a day before she broke her leg.

1 2. Future perfect continuous tense

- used to project ourselves forward in time and to look back.

- it refers to events or actions that are currently unfinished but will be finished at some future time.