

English Grammar Tenses: Free PDF Notes Download

Let's explore all the English grammar tenses in detail, and I will provide practical notes on each of them to help you understand and use them correctly in your writing and speaking.

1. **Simple Present Tense**: The simple present tense is used to describe habitual or regular actions, general facts, or universal truths. It is formed by adding "-s" or "-es" to the base form of the verb for the third person singular. For example, "I eat breakfast every day" or "She eats breakfast every day."

Practical Notes:

- Use the simple present tense to talk about things that happen regularly, such as daily routines.
- Use it to state facts that are generally true, such as "The sun rises in the east."
- 2. **Present Continuous Tense**: The present continuous tense is used to describe actions that are happening at the moment of speaking or around now. It is formed by using "to be" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I am typing this text" or "She is watching TV."

- Use the present continuous tense to describe an action that is in progress at the moment of speaking, such as "I am writing an email right now."
- Use it to describe a temporary situation, such as "She is staying with her friends for a few days."
- 3. **Present Perfect Tense**: The present perfect tense is used to describe an action that happened at an unspecified time in the past or started in the past and continues to the present. It is formed by using "have/has" + past participle of the verb. For example, "I have visited Paris" or "She has seen that movie."



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Practical Notes:

- Use the present perfect tense to talk about past actions that are still relevant to the present, such as "I have studied English for five years."
- Use it to talk about experiences or achievements, such as "I have traveled to many countries."
- 4. **Present Perfect Continuous Tense**: The present perfect continuous tense is used to describe an action that started in the past and continues to the present. It emphasizes the duration or continuity of an action. It is formed by using "have/has been" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I have been studying English for five years" or "She has been working for six hours."

Practical Notes:

- Use the present perfect continuous tense to describe an action that started in the past and continues to the present, such as "I have been learning French for two years."
- Use it to describe a temporary situation that is still ongoing, such as "She has been living in London for three months."
- 5. **Simple Past Tense**: The simple past tense is used to describe an action that happened at a specific time in the past. It is formed by adding "-ed" or "-d" to the base form of regular verbs or by using the second form of irregular verbs. For example, "I watched a movie last night" or "She ate breakfast an hour ago."

- Use the simple past tense to describe a completed action in the past, such as "I visited my grandparents last summer."
- Use it to describe a series of completed actions in the past, such as "He woke up, got dressed, and left the house."



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6. **Past Continuous Tense**: The past continuous tense is used to describe an action that was in progress at a specific time in the past. It is formed by using "was/were" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I was watching TV when she called" or "They were playing tennis yesterday."

Practical Notes:

- Use the past continuous tense to describe an action that was ongoing in the past and was interrupted by another action, such as "I was cooking when the phone rang."
- Use it to describe a background action in a story or a description, such as "The sun was setting, and the birds were singing."
- 7. **Past Perfect Tense**: The past perfect tense is used to describe an action that was completed before another action in the past. It is formed by using "had" + past participle of the verb. For example, "I had finished my homework before I went to bed" or "She had left before I arrived."

Practical Notes:

- Use the past perfect tense to describe an action that happened before another action in the past, such as "I had eaten breakfast before I left the house."
- Use it to describe a cause and effect relationship in the past, such as "She had studied hard, so she passed the exam."
- 8. **Past Perfect Continuous Tense**: The past perfect continuous tense is used to describe an action that started in the past and continued up until another time in the past. It is formed by using "had been" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I had been waiting for two hours when he arrived" or "She had been working hard for weeks before she took a break."



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- Use the past perfect continuous tense to describe an action that was in progress before another action in the past, such as "I had been practicing the piano for hours before I gave up."
- Use it to describe a duration of time before another action in the past, such as "She had been driving for five hours before she stopped for a break."
- 9. **Simple Future Tense**: The simple future tense is used to describe an action that will happen in the future. It is formed by using "will" + base form of the verb. For example, "I will go to the gym tomorrow" or "She will meet her friends on Friday."

Practical Notes:

- Use the simple future tense to talk about plans or intentions in the future, such as "I will visit my family next weekend."
- Use it to make predictions about the future, such as "It will rain tomorrow."
- 10. **Future Continuous Tense**: The future continuous tense is used to describe an action that will be in progress at a specific time in the future. It is formed by using "will be" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I will be studying at this time tomorrow" or "She will be driving home at rush hour."

- Use the future continuous tense to describe an action that will be in progress at a specific time in the future, such as "I will be watching TV at 8 pm tomorrow."
- Use it to make predictions about the future, such as "The economy will be improving in the next few years."
- 11. **Future Perfect Tense**: The future perfect tense is used to describe an action that will be completed before a specific time in the future. It is formed by using "will have" + past participle of the verb. For example, "I will have finished my work by 5 pm" or "She will have graduated by next year."



Practical Notes:

- Use the future perfect tense to describe an action that will be completed before a specific time in the future, such as "I will have written my essay by tomorrow."
- Use it to describe an event or situation that will be finished in the future, such as "She will have retired by the time she turns 65."
- 12. **Future Perfect Continuous Tense**: The future perfect continuous tense is used to describe an action that will have been in progress for a duration of time before a specific time in the future. It is formed by using "will have been" + present participle (-ing form) of the verb. For example, "I will have been working for 10 hours by the time I finish my shift" or "She will have been studying for three years by the time she graduates."

- Use the future perfect continuous tense to describe an action that will have been in progress for a duration of time before a specific time in the future, such as "I will have been living in this city for five years by next month."
- Use it to emphasize the duration of an action that will be completed in the future, such as "She will have been teaching English for 20 years by the time she retires."