

ENGLISH TENSES: QUICK REFERENCE

Structure and simple examples of the 12 main English tenses

Tense group	Tense	Structure	Example
Simple	Past Simple	subject + past verb	I worked. / I went.
	Present Simple	subject + base verb / verb-s	I work. / She works.
	Future Simple	subject + will + base verb	I will work.
Continuous	Past Continuous	subject + was/were + verb-ing	I was working.
	Present Continuous	subject + am/is/are + verb-ing	I am working.
	Future Continuous	subject + will be + verb-ing	I will be working.
Perfect	Past Perfect	subject + had + past participle	I had worked.
	Present Perfect	subject + have/has + past participle	I have worked.
	Future Perfect	subject + will have + past participle	I will have worked.
Perfect Continuous	Past Perfect Continuous	subject + had been + verb-ing	I had been working.
	Present Perfect Continuous	subject + have/has been + verb-ing	I have been working.
	Future Perfect Continuous	subject + will have been + verb-ing	I will have been working.