

Verb Tenses

To conjugate a verb, you also need to know when your action is happening. This is where you use verb tense.

There are many verb tenses in English. This year we will be learning the Simple Present, Simple Past, Simple Future, Present Continuous, Past Continuous, and Future Continuous.

The *simple* tenses are your basic present (now), past (then), and future (later). The *continuous* tenses show something that is ongoing or happening for a while.

Here is an example of a regular verb (*to live*) conjugated in all six tenses:

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
live	lived	will live
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous
am living	was living	will be living

With a regular verb, the additions are predictable. Add -ed for your simple past. Add the word will before the simple present for your simple future. Some verbs, however, are irregular. This means that they do not follow the regular pattern. This is the case of the verb *to eat*:

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
eat	ate	will eat
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous
am eating	was eating	will be eating

You can see that the Simple Past does not follow the rule. Instead of adding -ed, it changes completely. This makes it an irregular verb.

A. Conjugate the regular verb **to look** in each of the tenses.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous

B. Conjugate the irregular verb **to draw** in each of the tenses.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous

C. Conjugate the regular verb **to talk** in each of the tenses.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous

D. Conjugate the irregular verb **to sing** in each of the tenses.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous

E. Conjugate the regular verb **to watch** in each of the tenses.

Simple Present	Simple Past	Simple Future
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Future Continuous

F. Write present, past, or future for the tense of each verb in bold.

1. Roses **will bloom** each June. _____
2. They **lounged** on the sofa all day. _____
3. You **will receive** your report cards soon. _____
4. I **eat** breakfast every day. _____
5. The training **tamed** the lion. _____
6. Charlie **got** a balalaika for his birthday. _____
7. Igor **bakes** the most delicious cookies. _____
8. She **will listen** to a podcast tonight. _____
9. Zazu **followed** Simba to the elephant graveyard. _____
10. I **asked** you where you hid my treasure. _____

G. Complete each sentence by conjugating the verb in the tense shown in parentheses.

1. (to run, future) Steph _____ a marathon tomorrow.
2. (to take, future) I _____ her to the train station.
3. (to lose, past) Will _____ his wallet at the grocery store yesterday.
4. (to know, past) Karina never _____ her grandfather.
5. (to go, present) They _____ on a cruise every March break.
6. (to skip, present) Jamie _____ down the hall.