

# Grammar Practice: Verb Tense

## Simple Verbs

1. **Present** tense expresses an unchanging, repeated, or reoccurring action or situation that exists now.
2. **Past** tense expresses an action or situation that was started and finished in the past. Future tense expresses an action or situation that will occur in the future.




| Tense   | Timeline | Time  | Verb Form                                   |
|---|----------|---|---|
| <b>Present</b><br>I <u>drive</u> to work.<br>She <u>drives</u> to work. |          | Present; may imply a continuation from past to future | Present:<br><u>drive</u><br><u>drives</u>   |
| <b>Past</b><br>I <u>drove</u> to work.                                  |          | Past  | Past:<br><u>drove</u>                       |
| <b>Future</b><br>I <u>will drive</u> to work.                           |          | Future  | Present preceded by will: <u>will drive</u> |

Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses on the spaces provided. Example: (Past) Bill speak to his neighbor over the fence. ≥ Bill *spoke* to his neighbor over the fence.

1. (Present) She speak four languages. \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Future) Kaitlin promise to wash all of the dishes. \_\_\_\_\_
3. (Past) Jodi bake all the cookies for the Bake Sale. \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Past) Kevin help a student with his paper. \_\_\_\_\_
5. (Future) Valerie graduate from Harvard next May. \_\_\_\_\_
6. (Present) Dominique explain the problem. \_\_\_\_\_
7. (Present) Tara study on her computer. \_\_\_\_\_
8. (Future) The teachers evaluate the exams. \_\_\_\_\_
9. (Past) Ryan forget his lunch yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_
10. (Past) Tatiana decide on the red dress. \_\_\_\_\_

## Perfect Verbs

1. **Present perfect** tense describes an action that happened at an indefinite time in the past, or that began in the past and continues in the present.
2. **Past perfect** tense describes an action that took place in the past before another past action. Future perfect tense describes an action that will occur in the future before some other action.

| Tense   | Timeline   | Time  | Verb Form   |
|---|--|---|---|
| Present Perfect<br>I <u>have driven</u> to work.  |   | Completed recently in past; may continue into the present | Past Participle preceded by <u>have</u> or <u>has</u> :<br><u>have driven</u> |
| Past Perfect<br>I <u>had driven</u> to work before I moved to the city (event).             |   | Prior to a specific time in the past                      | Past Participle preceded by <u>had</u> :<br><u>had driven</u>                 |
| Future Perfect<br>I <u>will have driven</u> to work hundreds of times by Christmas (event). |  | At a time prior to a specific time in the future          | Past Participle preceded by <u>will have</u> :<br><u>will have driven</u>     |

Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses on the spaces provided.




Example: (Future Perfect) I have three doctor appointments by August.

*I will have had* three doctor appointments by August.

1. (Present Perfect) I shop since the store opened today. \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Future Perfect) Michael finish his homework by 2 o'clock. \_\_\_\_\_
3. (Present Perfect) Joan take her dog to the vet three times this week. \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Future Perfect) Josh take six tests by the end of the semester. \_\_\_\_\_
5. (Past Perfect) Landon has three cups of coffee by the end of the dance. \_\_\_\_\_
6. (Present Perfect) Professor Brock tell her students many times that homework is important. \_\_\_\_\_
7. (Present Perfect) They walk three hours in search of the perfect restaurant. \_\_\_\_\_
8. (Future Perfect) She jog three miles by 7pm. \_\_\_\_\_
9. (Past Perfect) He buy tickets to the opera for his girlfriend. \_\_\_\_\_

## Progressive Verbs

1. **Present progressive** tense describes an ongoing action that is happening at the same time the statement is written.
2. **Past progressive** tense describes a past action which was happening when another action occurred.
3. **Future progressive** tense describes an ongoing or continuous action that will take place in the future.

| Tense   | Timeline  | Time                      | Verb Form  |
|---|---|---------------------------|--|
| Present Progressive<br>I <u>am driving</u> to work.     |    | In progress now           | Progressive (–ing ending) preceded by <u>is, am, or are</u> :<br><u>am driving</u> |
| Past Progressive<br>I <u>was driving</u> to work.       |    | In progress in the past   | Progressive (–ing ending) preceded by <u>was or were</u> :<br><u>was driving</u>   |
| Future Progressive<br>I <u>will be driving</u> to work. |  | In progress in the future | Progressive (–ing ending) preceded by <u>will be</u> :<br><u>will be driving</u>   |

Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses on the spaces provided.

Example: (Future Progressive) I go to the beach this weekend.

I *will be going* to the beach this weekend.

1. (Future Progressive) Kate write her thesis all year. \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Past Perfect) Glenda eat an apple yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_
3. (Present Perfect) David use his computer for homework. \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Past Perfect) The groups of students listen to music. \_\_\_\_\_
5. (Present Perfect) All of the girl scouts dance to the music. \_\_\_\_\_
6. (Present Perfect) Aisha choose her classes for next semester. \_\_\_\_\_
7. (Future Perfect) We go to Disney Land this year. \_\_\_\_\_

## Perfect Progressive

1. **Present perfect progressive** tense describes an action that began in the past, continues in the present, and may continue into the future.
2. **Past perfect progressive** tense describes a past, ongoing action that was completed before some other past action.
3. **Future perfect progressive** tense describes a future, ongoing action that will occur before some specified future time.

| Tense   | Timeline | Time  | Verb  |
|---|----------|---|---|
| Present Perfect Progressive<br><br>I <u>have been driving</u> to work.  |          | In progress, up to now                          | Progressive (-ing ending) preceded by <u>have been</u> or <u>has been</u> :<br><u>have been driving</u> |
| Past Perfect Progressive<br><br>I <u>had been driving</u> when I began carpooling (event).                                  |          | In progress, before another event in the past   | Progressive (-ing ending) preceded by <u>had</u> :<br>I <u>had been driving</u>                         |
| Future Perfect Progressive<br><br>By August 1 <sup>st</sup> (event), I <u>will have been driving</u> to work for six years. |          | In progress, before another event in the future | Progressive (-ing ending) preceded by <u>will have been</u> :<br><u>will have been driving</u>          |

Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses on the spaces provided.

Example: (Past Perfect Progressive) She sing to the baby for two hours by the time I got home.

She had been singing to the baby for two hours by the time I got home.

1. (Present Perfect Progressive) Darren live in this apartment for 10 years.
2. (Future Perfect Progressive) The party go for ages by the time we arrive.
3. (Past Perfect Progressive) Christina and Jacob live on this property since 1992.
4. (Present Perfect Progressive) They sleep since this morning.

5. (Future Perfect Progressive) By 2014, Jodi teach for five years.
6. (Present Perfect Progressive) The baby cry all afternoon.
7. (Past Perfect Progressive) The puppies play with the ball when you came in.
8. (Present Perfect Progressive) The kids dance since 7pm.
9. (Future Perfect Progressive) I work at this job for over two years.
- 10.(Past Perfect Progressive) She chase that dog all night.

### Answer Key

#### Simple Verbs

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. speaks        | 6. explains      |
| 2. will promise  | 7. studies       |
| 3. baked         | 8. will evaluate |
| 4. helped        | 9. forgot        |
| 5. will graduate | 10. decided      |

#### Perfect Verbs

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. have shopped       | 6. has told         |
| 2. will have finished | 7. have walked      |
| 3. has taken          | 8. will have jogged |
| 4. will have taken    | 9. had bought       |
| 5. had had            | 10. will have used  |

#### Progressive Verbs

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. will be writing | 6. is choosing      |
| 2. was eating      | 7. will be going    |
| 3. is using        | 8. was lifting      |
| 4. were listening  | 9. will be watching |
| 5. are dancing     | 10. is going        |

#### Perfect Progressive

- |                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. has been living                    | 6. has been crying  |
| 2. will have been going               | 7. had been playing |
| 3. had been living<br>dancing         | 8. have been        |
| 4. have been sleeping<br>working      | 9. will have been   |
| 5. will have been teaching<br>chasing | 10. had been        |