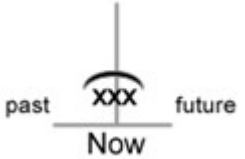




# Grammar Practice: Verb Tense

## Simple Verbs

<p><b>Present</b></p> <p>I <u>drive</u> to work. She <u>drives</u>. They <u>drive</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an unchanging, repeated, or reoccurring action or situation that exists now. May imply a continuation from past to future.</p>
<p><b>Past</b></p> <p>I <u>drove</u> to work. She <u>drove</u>. They <u>drove</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action or situation that was started and finished in the past.</p>
<p><b>Future</b></p> <p>I <u>will drive</u> to work. She <u>will drive</u>. They <u>will drive</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action or situation that will occur in the future.</p>

**Practice:** Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses.

Example: (Past) Bill speak to his neighbor over the fence. → spoke

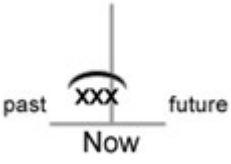
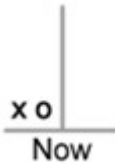
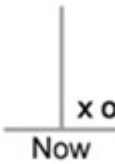
- (Present) She speak four languages. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past) Omar promise to wash all of the dishes. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future) Jodi bake all the cookies for the Bake Sale. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past) I help a student with his paper. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future) Valerie graduate from Harvard next May. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present) Dominique explain the solution clearly. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present) I studying on my computer. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future) The teachers evaluate the exams. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past) José forget his lunch yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past) Tatiana decide on the red dress. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice:** Explain the timing of the event described by the verb.

Example: The teachers will evaluate the exam. → *The teachers are going to evaluate the exam at some point in the future.*

- Jodi baked all the cookies for the Bake Sale. \_\_\_\_\_
- Valerie will graduate from Harvard. \_\_\_\_\_
- José forgets his lunch all the time. \_\_\_\_\_

## Perfect Verbs

<p><b>Present Perfect</b></p> <p>I <u>have driven</u> to work in the snow for many years.          She <u>has driven</u>.          They <u>have driven</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action that began in the past and continues in the present.</p>
<p><b>Past Perfect</b></p> <p>I <u>had driven</u> to work before I moved to the city.          She <u>had driven</u>.          They <u>had driven</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action that took place in the past before another past action.</p>
<p><b>Future Perfect</b></p> <p>I <u>will have driven</u> to work hundreds of times by April.          She <u>will have driven</u>.          They <u>will have driven</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action that will occur in the future before some other action.</p>

**Practice:** Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses.

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

- (Future Perfect) Shanika probably finish her homework by 2 o'clock. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect) Nala take her dog to the vet three times this week. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future Perfect) Josh took six tests by the end of the semester. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect) I had three cups of coffee by the end of the dance. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect) Professor Bay tell her students many times to study for the test. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect) They already walk an hour in search of the perfect restaurant. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future Perfect) I jog three miles by 7pm. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect) He buy tickets to the opera for his girlfriend. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect) Until he interrupted, it be a good conversation. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect) I never have such a hard time before. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice:** Explain the timing of the event described by the verb.

Example: I will jog three miles by 7pm. → *At a point between now and 7pm, I will have jogged three miles.*

- Garret will eat lunch before 2pm. \_\_\_\_\_
- I had had piles of work to do before noon. \_\_\_\_\_
- He has worked hard on this. \_\_\_\_\_
- He had bought the tickets before learning of the delays. \_\_\_\_\_

## Using “Had”

### Past Time

The verb “had” can be used to describe a time in the past that happened before another time in the past.

In the following sentence, this simple version of past tense doesn’t indicate an additional time in the past. The war simply ended.

*The war ended in 1812.*

In this sentence, the past event of the war ending happened before the past event of the troops arriving.

*By the time the troops arrived, the war had ended.*

To assess whether “had” is needed, look for an event that happened before another event. In this sentence, Omar lost his wallet before he found his back pocket empty.

*Omar knew that he had lost his wallet when he found his back pocket empty.*

### Past Possession

The verb “had” can also be used to describe a possession in the past.

In this sentence, the speaker possessed a date in the past—the speaker went on a date.

*I had a date.*

## Using “Had Had”

Sometimes, both forms of “had” are needed to communicate information about both time and possession. In this sentence, she felt great after she possessed a good night’s sleep.

*She felt great after she had had a good night’s sleep.*

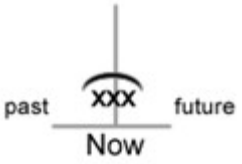


*She felt great after she had (time) had (possession) a good night’s sleep.*

When “had had” is used, it will always indicate that something was possessed before another past event, **even if the later past event goes unsaid**. In this sentence, the speaker had the date at one point, but no longer has the date.

*I had had a date.*

*I had (time) had (possession) a date [until it was cancelled].*

## Progressive Verbs

<p><b>Present Progressive</b></p> <p>I <u>am driving</u> to work. She <u>is driving</u>. They <u>are driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an ongoing action that is happening now.</p>
<p><b>Past Progressive</b></p> <p>I <u>was driving</u> to work. She <u>was driving</u>. They <u>were driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes a past action which was in progress in the past.</p>
<p><b>Future Progressive</b></p> <p>I <u>will be driving</u> to work. She <u>will be driving</u>. They <u>will be driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an ongoing or continuous action that will take place in the future.</p>

**Practice:** Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses.

Example: (Future Progressive) I go to the beach this weekend. → will be going

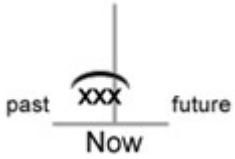


1. (Future Progressive) Kate write her thesis all year. \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Past Progressive) Greta eat an apple yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_
3. (Present Progressive) David use his computer for homework. \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Past Progressive) My students listen to music. \_\_\_\_\_
5. (Present Progressive) All of the girl scouts dance to the music. \_\_\_\_\_
6. (Future Progressive) Aisha choose her classes for next semester during winter break. \_\_\_\_\_
7. (Future Progressive) We go to Disney Land this year. \_\_\_\_\_
8. (Past Progressive) He buy tickets to the opera when he lost his phone. \_\_\_\_\_
9. (Future Progressive) They was studying to prepare for the test. \_\_\_\_\_
10. (Present Progressive) I snack too much lately. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice:** Explain the timing of the event described by the verb.

Example: Kate will be writing her thesis all year. → *At an unspecified time in the future, Kate will be writing her thesis throughout a year.*

1. I was putting off doing the laundry. \_\_\_\_\_
2. She will be taking on that responsibility soon. \_\_\_\_\_
3. They are bird watching. \_\_\_\_\_
4. We were feeling sad that week. \_\_\_\_\_

## Perfect Progressive Verbs

<p><b>Present Perfect Progressive</b></p> <p>I <u>have been driving</u> to work.          She <u>has been driving</u>.          They <u>have been driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes an action that began in the past, continues in the present, and may continue into the future.</p>
<p><b>Past Perfect Progressive</b></p> <p>I <u>had been driving</u> until I began carpooling.          She <u>had been driving</u>.          They <u>had been driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes a past, ongoing action that was completed before some other past action.</p>
<p><b>Future Perfect Progressive</b></p> <p>By August 1<sup>st</sup>, I <u>will have been driving</u> to work for six years.          She <u>will have been driving</u>.          They <u>will have been driving</u>.</p>		<p>Describes a future, ongoing action that will occur before some specified future action.</p>

**Practice:** Locate the verb in each sentence and write the correct verb form indicated in the parentheses.

Example: (Past Perfect Progressive) She sing to Mia for two hours by the time I got home. → had been singing

- (Present Perfect Progressive) I shop since the store opened today. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect Progressive) Darren live in this apartment for 10 years. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future Perfect Progressive) The kids wait for an hour by the time we get there. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect Progressive) Christina and Jacob stay on this property since 1992. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect Progressive) They sleep all morning. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future Perfect Progressive) By 2014, Jodi teach for five years. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect Progressive) The baby cry all afternoon. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Past Perfect Progressive) The puppies play with the ball until you came in. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Present Perfect Progressive) The kids dance since 7pm. \_\_\_\_\_
- (Future Perfect Progressive) I work at this job for over two years before I get a raise. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice:** Explain the timing of the event described by the verb.

Example: We had been ready for the test before it was postponed. → *We were ready for the test during a continuous time in the past before the test was postponed; after it was postponed, we were no longer ready to take the test.*

- She had been looking for her dog all night before she had to go home. \_\_\_\_\_
- Manuel has been writing his thesis all year. \_\_\_\_\_
- They will have eaten already by 8pm. \_\_\_\_\_