

Unit One

Verb Tenses

A. Present Tenses

Tense	Function(s)	Example Sentence	Time Signals
Simple Present	- General truths/facts	Water boils at 100°C.	Always, usually, often, every day, on Mondays, etc.
	- Habits/routines	I walk to school every day.	
	- Scheduled events	The train leaves at 8 a.m.	
	- Instructions	First, cut the vegetables.	
	- Future (in subordinate clauses)	Call me if she arrives.	
Present Continuous	- Actions happening now	She is reading right now.	Now, at the moment, right now, this week, tomorrow
	- Temporary situations	He is working in New York this month.	
	- Future plans	I'm meeting my friend tomorrow.	
	- Changing situations	Prices are increasing.	
Present Perfect	- Past actions with present relevance	She has lost her keys.	Just, already, never, ever, yet, since, for
	- Life experiences	I have visited France.	
	- Recently completed actions	He has just finished his work.	
	- Actions started in the past and continuing now	They have lived here since 2010.	
Present Perfect Continuous	- Actions started in the past and continuing	I have been studying all day.	For, since, lately, recently
	- Recently finished actions with effects now	She has been running; she's out of breath.	

EXERCISE 1

Fill in the gaps, using the right form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. The scientists _____ (to believe) that climate change is one of the most critical issues facing humanity today.
2. The team _____ (to prepare) for the annual conference, which is scheduled for next week.
3. She _____ (to write) three novels since she began her writing career.
4. They _____ (to discuss) the merger for several weeks, but no final decision has been made yet.
5. Every summer, she _____ (to visit) her grandparents in the countryside for a month.
6. Right now, the professor _____ (to give) a lecture on quantum mechanics.
7. I _____ (to never see) such a breathtaking view before; the mountains look magnificent!
8. Since the start of the year, the company _____ (to invest) heavily in sustainable energy projects.
9. The moon _____ (to orbit) the Earth every 27.3 days.
10. I can't talk right now because I _____ (to drive) to the airport to pick up a friend.

EXERCISE 2

Choose the correct answer.

1. ___ this event for months, so I really hope everything goes smoothly tomorrow.
 - A) have planned
 - b) plan
 - c) am planning
 - d) have been planning

2. Whenever Lisa ___ that song on the radio, it always reminds her of her childhood summers.
 - A) hears
 - B) is hearing
 - C) has heard
 - D) has been hearing

3. Right now, scientists ___ the effects of climate change on endangered species in various ecosystems.
 - A) study
 - B) are studying
 - C) have studied
 - D) have been studying

4. This is the third time this week that you ___ the deadline for submitting your project report.
 - A) miss
 - B) have missed
 - C) are missing
 - D) have been missing

- 5 They ___ the same yoga class every Tuesday evening, but lately, they've been feeling less motivated.
 - A) attend
 - B) am attending
 - C) have attended
 - D) have been attending

EXERCISE 3

Choose the incorrect answer.

1. She usually exercises every morning, but now, she is focusing on yoga, which she practices for years.
2. I am working at this company for five years, but right now, I am considering other opportunities because I don't feel satisfied and have been thinking of a change for months.
3. He writes articles for the local newspaper, and this week, he covers a major event that he has reported on before and has been following closely.
4. My brother plays the guitar, but right now, he is learning the piano, which he has been learning since a few months and has been practicing daily.
5. My team is usually collaborating on projects, but at the moment, we are focusing on a challenging assignment that we have been working on since January.

B. Past Tenses

Tense	Function(s)	Example Sentence	Time Signals
Past Simple	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed actions in the past - Past habits or routines 	<p>She visited Paris last year.</p> <p>I walked to school every day.</p>	<p>Yesterday, last year, in 1990, ago, when I was young</p>
Past Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions in progress at a specific time in the past - Interrupted past actions 	<p>I was reading at 8 p.m.</p> <p>She was cooking when he arrived.</p>	<p>While, when, as, at [specific time]</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Background information in a story 	<p>It was raining, and the streets were empty.</p>	
Past Perfect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions completed before another action in the past 	<p>She had left before he arrived.</p>	<p>Before, after, by the time, already, just</p>
Past Perfect Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing actions before a past action with emphasis on duration 	<p>They had been waiting for an hour before the bus arrived.</p>	<p>For, since, before</p>

EXERCISE 4

In the space provided, write C if the verb in boldface is used correctly and write IC if it is used incorrectly. Supply the correct form when there is an error.

- ___ 1. While the guests were enjoying the evening, the host suddenly **had remembered** that he hadn't arranged for transportation back home.
- ___ 2. Throughout the stormy night, they **had been anxiously waiting** for news of the missing hikers, hoping for their safe return.
- ___ 3. He **was reviewing** the documents late into the night when he suddenly realized he had overlooked a critical detail.
- ___ 4. After they had been arguing for hours, they finally **reached** a compromise that satisfied both sides.
- ___ 5. By the time I **arrived** at the station, the train had already departed, leaving me stranded for the next two hours.
- ___ 6. For years, the company had been struggling to stay afloat, but it **managed** to turn a profit just before declaring bankruptcy.
- ___ 7. While she **was cleaning** out the attic, she came across a box of old letters that she hadn't seen in decades.
- ___ 8. The students **had been preparing** for the exam for months, yet many of them still felt unprepared on the day of the test.
- ___ 9. He had been considering a career change for years, yet it **wasn't** until last month that he finally took the plunge.
- ___ 10. While the rest of the team was discussing the new project, he quietly excused himself because he **had left** his notes at home and could not make a contribution.

“Used to” vs. “Would” for Habitual Actions in the Past

Both “used to” and “would” can refer to habitual actions or routines in the past, but they have some differences in their usage.

1. “Used to”

- Usage: Indicates actions, habits, or states that regularly occurred in the past but no longer happen.
- Versatility: Can refer to both repeated actions and past states.
- Examples:
 - Actions: “I used to play the piano every evening.”
 - States: “She used to have long hair when she was a teenager.”

2. “Would”

- Usage: Also indicates repeated or habitual actions in the past, similar to “used to.” However, it is more formal and cannot be used for past states.
- Versatility: Limited to actions only, not states or situations.
- Examples:
 - Actions: “Every summer, we would go camping by the lake.”
 - Incorrect usage for states: X “She would have long hair.” (You must use “used to” here.)

Important note: It is essential to remember that we should not use “would” to indicate location, condition, or possession.

Example:

- I used to live in Chicago.
 - Sarah used to be a marriage counselor.
 - We used to have a summer home.
- I ~~would~~ live in Chicago.
- Sarah ~~would~~ be a marriage counselor.
- We ~~would~~ have a summer home.

EXERCISE 5

Choose the correct answer.

1. Shebeautiful when she was young.
A) used to be B) used to
2. Jamie..... a dog when she was a child, but now she has a cat.
A) had had B) used to have
3. I..... to the beach yesterday.
A) used to go B) went
4. The Smith to live in a small village for a long time
A) used to B) would
5. James..... a very important test last week.
A) used to have B) had
6. They..... Easter with us every year until we moved.
A) used to spend B) had spent
7. Heunderstand French much better before he stopped practicing.
A) used to B) would
8. She used vivacious, but she has been depressed since she lost her parents in an accident.
A) to be B) be

C. Future

Tense	Function(s)	Example Sentence	Time Signals
Simple Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Predictions - Decisions made at the moment - Offers/promises - Scheduled future actions 	<p>It will rain tomorrow.</p> <p>I'll help you with that.</p> <p>I will call you soon.</p> <p>The class will begin at 9 a.m.</p>	<p>Tomorrow, next week, in 2025, soon</p>
Future Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions in progress at a specific time in the future - Planned future actions 	<p>I will be studying at 10 p.m.</p> <p>She will be traveling tomorrow.</p>	<p>At [specific time] in the future, tomorrow, next week</p>
Future Perfect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions completed before a specific time in the future 	<p>By next year, she will have graduated.</p>	<p>By, by the time, before</p>
Future Perfect Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing actions continuing up to a specific future time 	<p>By next month, I will have been working here for a year.</p>	<p>For, by</p>

EXERCISE 6

Fill in the gaps, using the right form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. The engineers _____ (complete) the bridge construction before the rainy season begins in early March.
2. The committee _____ (convene) next week to finalize the strategic plan for the upcoming fiscal year.
3. The scientists _____ (reveal) groundbreaking discoveries at the international conference scheduled for December next year.
4. By this time next month, she _____ (host) a webinar on sustainable business practices for executives.
5. By 2030, many countries _____ (invest) in renewable energy sources for more than a decade.
6. They _____ (analyze) the financial data all weekend to prepare a comprehensive report for stakeholders.
7. By the end of the year, we _____ (implement) all the necessary updates to our system.
8. By the time she retires, she _____ (work) in the healthcare sector for 40 years.
9. The team _____ (finish) the project before the client arrives for the final review meeting.
10. When you arrive, I _____ (wait) for over two hours due to your flight delay.

EXERCISE 7

Fill in the gaps, using the right form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. “How do you know Brian when we get home?”

“Because it’s 11:30 . He always goes to bed at 10:00.”

A) will be sleeping

B) will sleep

C) will have slept

D) will have been sleeping

2. “Let’s have dinner at Dillon’s.”

“ No. It too much.”

A) will cost

B) will be costing

C) will have cost

D) will have been costing

3. It’s taking Pedro a lot longer to finish his house than he expected. By next month he it for 3 years.

A) will build

B) will be building

C) will have been building

D) will have built

4. I have not traveled much yet; however, I the Grand Canyon and San Francisco by the time I leave the United States.

A) will visit

B) will be visiting

C) will have been visiting

D) will have visited

5. By the time they finish their trip across Yosemite National park, they for more than six days.

A) will hike

B) will be hiking

C) will have hiked

D) will have been hiking

Understanding the Difference Between “Will” and “Be Going to”

Both “will” and “be going to” are used to talk about the future, but they are used in slightly different contexts. Here's how they differ:

1. “Will”

- Usage: Typically used for:
 - Spontaneous decisions made at the moment of speaking.
 - Promises, offers, or predictions not based on current evidence.
 - General predictions about the future.
- Examples:
 - Spontaneous decision: “I forgot my wallet. Don't worry, I will pay you back tomorrow.”
 - Promise: “I will call you as soon as I arrive.”
 - Prediction: “I think it will rain tomorrow.”

Note: “Will” expresses a more neutral or uncertain future, especially for predictions that are not based on concrete evidence.

2. “Be Going to”

- Usage: Generally used for:
 - Plans or intentions that have already been decided upon before the moment of speaking.
 - Predictions based on current evidence or observations.
- Examples:
 - Planned action: “She is going to start her new job next month.”
 - Prediction based on evidence: “Look at those dark clouds! It is going to rain soon.”
 - Intentions: “We are going to move to a new apartment next year.”

Note: “Be going to” implies a higher degree of certainty because it is often based on evidence or a plan that has already been made.

FINAL TEST

Directions: Choose the correct answer.

1. By the end of the year, Michael and his family _____ their dream house for five years, and they hope to finish it soon.
 - A. were building
 - B. had been building
 - C. will have been building
 - D. are building
2. Even though most people typically do not do this on a regular basis, it _____ a great idea to check your website's content every now and then.
 - A. will be
 - B. has been
 - C. will have been
 - D. is
3. As soon as the technology _____ more advanced, the people who can do only routine work will become unemployed.
 - A. gets
 - B. is getting
 - C. will get
 - D. has gotten
4. According to latest research, available farming land _____ steadily since 1960 and will decline by half over the next 50 years.
 - A. had decreased
 - B. decreased
 - C. has decreased
 - D. was decreasing
5. Christopher Columbus was interested in the exploration itself, not the gold or the title that he _____.
 - A. had been getting
 - B. was going to get
 - C. will have gotten
 - D. has been getting
6. The next time her fans see her, Mrs. Sacha _____ birth to her first baby girl.
 - A. has given
 - B. will give
 - C. will be giving
 - D. will have given

7. Coffee drinking became popular very fast in the Ottoman Empire, and by the time of Murat III, more than 600 coffee houses _____ in Istanbul alone.
- A. had opened
 - B. opened
 - C. will have opened
 - D. has opened
8. There _____ more changes in the next 15 years, and by 2050 new technology will have transformed communications in unpredictable ways.
- A. are
 - B. will be
 - C. have been
 - D. is going to be
9. She _____ in the countryside and enjoy the simplicity of rural life, an environment she no longer experiences in the bustling city.
- A. was living
 - B. lived
 - C. would
 - D. used to live
10. Some experts _____ that more than 70 million Americans will be working from home in 2040.
- A. have believed
 - B. will believe
 - C. believe
 - D. are believing