

50 PRESENT, PAST, AND FUTURE TENSE

The basic, progressive, and emphatic forms of the six tenses show time within one of three general categories: present, past, and future.

Present	I walk, I am walking, I do walk
Past	I walked, I have walked, I had walked, I was walking, I have been walking, I had been walking, I did walk
Future	I will walk, I will have walked, I will be walking, I will have been walking

Practice A Identifying Tense in Present, Past, and Future

Read each sentence. For the underlined verb in each sentence, write the form of the tense that is used.

Example: Clouds were blocking the sun.

Answer: past progressive

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| 1. Henry <u>does play</u> on the baseball team.
_____ | 6. The thief <u>confessed</u> to his crimes.
_____ |
| 2. Rhoda wished that she <u>had left</u> sooner.
_____ | 7. Herbivores <u>eat</u> plants.
_____ |
| 3. Sharon <u>will be driving</u> next year.
_____ | 8. The bus <u>will be</u> here in five minutes.
_____ |
| 4. Someone <u>is knocking</u> on the door.
_____ | 9. Mia <u>has been writing</u> poetry for years.
_____ |
| 5. I <u>did finish</u> reading the book last night.
_____ | 10. Cray <u>will have left</u> by the time you arrive.
_____ |

Practice B Supplying Verbs in Present, Past, and Future Time

Read each sentence. Then, rewrite each sentence, filling in the blank with the form of the verb indicated in parentheses.

Example: The manatees _____ to the bay. (migrate, future)

Answer: The manatees will migrate to the bay.

- Jason _____ until the loud music distracted him. (listen, past perfect progressive)
- Adding cinnamon _____ the flavor. (improve, present emphatic)
- I _____ most of the work by the time they came to help. (finish, past perfect)
- The store _____ by the time we get there. (close, future perfect)
- Some mammals _____ in the water. (live, present)
- Edith _____ when you called. (sleep, past progressive)

Writing and Speaking Application

Take turns with a partner. Tell a story that begins in the past and ends in the future. Write three sentences using verbs in past, present, and future tense from your partner's story.

49 VERB CONJUGATION

A conjugation is a complete list of the singular and plural forms of a verb in a particular tense. Use three principal parts—the present, the past, and the past participle—to conjugate all six of the basic forms. Use the present participle to conjugate the progressive tense.

Practice A Conjugating the Basic Forms of Verbs

Read each item. Then, write the word or words that are missing from the verb conjugation. Use the verb and tense shown in parentheses.

Example: she _____ (stay, past perfect)

Answer: has stayed

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. we _____ (smile, past) | 6. it _____ (change, past perfect) |
| 2. she _____ (explain, present) | 7. he _____ (miss, present) |
| 3. you _____ (look, past perfect) | 8. we _____ (create, past) |
| 4. they _____ (show, future) | 9. you _____ (work, future perfect) |
| 5. I _____ (play, present perfect) | 10. they _____ (think, present perfect) |

Practice B Conjugating the Progressive Forms of Verbs

Read each sentence. Then, rewrite each sentence, using the form of the verb that is indicated in parentheses.

Example: We work. (future perfect progressive)

Answer: We will have been working.

1. She sails. (past perfect progressive) _____
2. They grow. (present progressive) _____
3. We learn. (past progressive) _____
4. You help. (future progressive) _____
5. I write. (present progressive) _____
6. You serve. (future progressive) _____
7. It blinks. (present perfect progressive) _____
8. We jog. (past progressive) _____
9. They speak. (present progressive) _____
10. He cooks. (past perfect progressive) _____

Writing and Speaking Application

With a group, select a tense and conjugate out loud the basic forms of three verbs from Practice A. To do this assignment, use each verb after *I*, *you*, *she*, *we*, and *they*. Then, work independently to write a paragraph using verbs in both basic and progressive forms.