

Tenses in English

	<i>PAST</i>	<i>PRESENT</i>
Simple FACTUAL	Past simple or <i>prétérit</i>	Present simple
	Form V + -ed / 2nd column irr vbs	Form V + ∅ or 3rd person sing V + -s
	Aff - Francis learnt English when he started school. Neg - I did not learn English. Ques - Did you learn English at school? Use action finished in the past	Aff - He learns English / They learn English Neg - We do not learn English. Susan does not learn English. Ques - Do you learn English at school? Does Lewis learn English? Use repeated actions sequence of actions in the present things in general
Be + ing COMMENT	Past be + ing or past continuous or past progressive	Present be + ing or present continuous or present progressive
	Form Be in the past (was/were) + V+-ing	Form Be in the present (am/is/are) + V+-ing
	Aff - We were not learning English. Neg - You were not learning English. Ques - Was he learning English? Use action was in progress at special time in the past	Aff - I am currently learning English. Neg - He is not learning English. Ques - Are you learning English ? Use action happening at the moment of speaking
Perfect LINK BETWEEN TWO EVENTS	Past perfect	Present perfect
	Form Have in the past (had) + V +-ed / 3rd column irr vbs	Form Have in the present (have/has) + V +-ed / 3rd column irr vbs
	Aff - He had learnt English - I had travelled before I went there. Neg - They had not learnt English - We had not travelled . Ques - Had you learnt English? - Had he travelled ? Use the past equivalent of Present Perfect → to talk about an action that happened before a past action.	Aff - He has learnt English - I have travelled . Neg - They have not learnt English - We have not travelled . Ques - Have you learnt English? - Has he travelled ? Use result of an action in the past is important in the present recently completed action state beginning in the past and still continuing
Perfect be + ing LINK BETWEEN TWO EVENTS WITH A FOCUS ON THE ACTION	Past perfect be + ing or past perfect continuous	Present perfect be + ing or present perfect continuous
	Form Had been + V +-ing	Form Has/have been + V +-ing
	Aff - I had been learning English for 12 years when I moved to London. Neg - I had not been learning English Ques - Had you been learning English? Use how long something had been happening before something else happened	Aff - I have been learning English for 12 years now. Neg - Tom have been learning English Ques - Have you been learning English? Use action beginning in the past and still continuing (focus is on the action)