



Grammar tenses review

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Review

*01. Relative pronouns
and clauses*

02. Present tenses

03. Past tenses

04. Future tenses

05. Practice

06. Practice

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RELATIVE PRONOUNS AND RELATIVE CLAUSES

A relative clause is a part of a sentence that gives more information about a noun. This noun is called the antecedent. Relative clauses help us avoid repetition and make sentences more natural and informative.

Instead of saying:

I met a woman. The woman is a doctor.

We say:

I met a woman who is a doctor.

The clause “who is a doctor” describes “a woman”.

Relative clauses usually begin with a relative pronoun such as who, which, that, whose, where, or when.

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RELATIVE PRONOUNS AND RELATIVE CLAUSES

Relative Pronouns Explained

Who is used to refer to people. It can act as the subject of the relative clause.

The teacher who explains well is popular.

Whom is also used for people but functions as the object of the clause. It is mostly used in formal English.

The manager whom I met was friendly.

(In everyday English, who or that is often used instead.)

Which is used for things and animals.

The phone which I bought is expensive.

That can replace who or which in defining relative clauses.

The movie that we watched was interesting.

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RELATIVE PRONOUNS AND RELATIVE CLAUSES

Whose shows possession. It can be used for people and things.
The girl whose bag is lost is crying.

Where refers to places.
This is the house where I grew up.

When refers to time.
I remember the day when we first met.

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Defining vs Non-Defining Relative Clauses

Defining relative clauses give essential information. Without them, the meaning of the sentence is unclear. No commas are used.

The student **who** studies regularly gets good grades.
(We need to know which student.)

Non-defining relative clauses give extra information. The sentence still makes sense without them. Commas are required.

My sister, **who** lives in Canada, is visiting us.
(The listener already knows who “my sister” is.)
In non-defining clauses, **that** cannot be used.

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PRESENT SIMPLE

The present simple tense describes actions that are regular, repeated, or always true. It is also used for facts, habits, and fixed schedules.

We use the base form of the verb with I, you, we, and they.

For he, she, and it, we add **-s** or **-es**.

This tense is commonly used to talk about daily routines:
I wake up at six every day.

It is also used for general truths and facts:
The sun rises in the east.

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PRESENT SIMPLE

Another important use is for permanent situations:
She works in a bank.

The present simple can also refer to the future when talking about timetables and schedules, especially for transport and official programs:

The meeting starts at 10 a.m.

Adverbs such as always, usually, often, sometimes, never are frequently used with this tense.

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PRESENT SIMPLE

Negative Form

- To make the present simple negative, we use **do not (don't)** or **does not (doesn't)** + the base form of the verb.

It is important to remember that when we use **doesn't**, the verb goes back to its base form.

Examples:

I don't like coffee.

She doesn't work on Sundays.

They don't understand the question.

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PRESENT SIMPLE

Question Form

To make questions, we use Do / Does + subject + base verb.

Examples:

Do you live here?

Does he play football?

Do they study English?

Short answers:

Yes, I do. / No, I don't.

Yes, she does. / No, she doesn't.

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PRESENT CONTINUOUS

The present continuous tense is formed with am, is, or are + verb-ing.

It describes actions that are happening at the moment of speaking:

She **is talking** to her friend right now.

It is also used for temporary situations, even if the action is not happening exactly at the moment:

I am staying with my aunt this week.

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PRESENT CONTINUOUS

The present continuous is often used to talk about changing or developing situations:

More people are working from home.

Another important use is for future arrangements that are already planned, usually with a specific time:

I am meeting my doctor tomorrow.

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PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Negative Form

The negative is formed by adding not after the verb to be.

Examples:

I **am not** studying now.
She **isn't** listening.
They **aren't** watching TV.

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PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Question Form

Questions are formed by inverting the subject and the verb to be.

Examples:

Am I speaking too fast?

Is he working today?

Are they waiting outside?

Short answers:

Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.

Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.

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PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

The present perfect continuous focuses on the duration of an action that started in the past and is still continuing or has just stopped.

It is formed using have/has + been + verb-ing.

This tense is used when we want to emphasize how long something has been happening:

I **have been** studying English for three years.

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PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

It is also used when a past activity has a visible or present result:

She is tired because she **has been working** all day.

Time expressions such as for, since, all day, recently, and lately are common with this tense.

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PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Negative Form

We form the negative with have/has not + been + verb-ing.

Examples:

I haven't been sleeping well.
She hasn't been studying enough.
They haven't been working recently.

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PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Question Form

Questions are formed by placing have/has before the subject.

Examples:

Have you been waiting long?

Has she been working here for years?

Have they been arguing again?

Short answers:

Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

Yes, she has. / No, she hasn't.

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PAST SIMPLE

The past simple tense is used for completed actions that happened at a specific time in the past.

The time of the action is usually known or mentioned:

I **visited** London last summer.

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PAST SIMPLE

This tense is also used to describe a series of actions in the past:

He **entered** the room, sat down, and started talking.

Regular verbs end in **-ed**, while irregular verbs have special forms:

walked / went / saw

Common time expressions include yesterday, last night, two days ago, in 2019.

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PAST SIMPLE

Negative Form

The negative is formed using **did not (didn't)** + base verb.

The verb returns to its base form, even if it is irregular.

Examples:

I didn't go to school yesterday.
She didn't finish her homework.
They didn't see the accident.

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PAST SIMPLE

Question Form

Questions are formed with Did + subject + base verb.

Examples:

Did you call me?

Did she understand the lesson?

Did they arrive on time?

Short answers:

Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

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PAST CONTINUOUS

The past continuous tense describes an action that was in progress at a particular moment in the past.

It is formed using was/were + verb-ing.

We often use it to set the background in a story:

I **was reading** when the phone rang.

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PAST CONTINUOUS

The past continuous shows that one action was happening when another shorter action interrupted it (usually in the past simple).

It can also describe two actions happening at the same time:

She **was cooking** while he was cleaning.

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PAST CONTINUOUS

Negative Form

The negative is formed by adding not after was/were.

Examples:

I wasn't sleeping.
She wasn't paying attention.
They weren't listening.

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PAST CONTINUOUS

Question Form

Questions are formed by placing was/were before the subject.

Examples:

Was he studying at 8 p.m.?

Were they arguing again?

Was she crying?

Short answers:

Yes, he was. / No, he wasn't.
Yes, they were. / No, they weren't.

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PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

The past perfect simple is used to talk about an action that was completed before another action in the past.

It is formed using had + past participle.

This tense helps clarify the order of past events:

By the time we arrived, the movie **had** already **started**.

Think of it as the past of the past.

It is often used with words like already, just, before, after.

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PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

Negative Form

The negative is formed with had not (hadn't) + past participle.

Examples:

She **hadn't finished** her work.
We **hadn't met** before that day.
They **hadn't seen** the movie.

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PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

Question Form

Questions are formed by placing had before the subject.

Examples:

Had you ever visited London before 2019?

Had she completed the task?

Had they left when you arrived?

Short answers:

Yes, I had. / No, I hadn't.

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PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

• The past perfect continuous emphasises the duration of an action before another past event.

It is formed using had + been + verb-ing.

We use it to explain causes or reasons in the past:

He was exhausted because he **had been running** for hours.

The focus is not on the result, but on how long the action lasted.

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PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Negative Form

The negative is formed with had not + been + verb-ing.

Examples:

He hadn't been sleeping well.

She hadn't been studying long.

They hadn't been waiting very long.

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PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Question Form

Questions are formed by placing had before the subject.

Examples:

Had you been working there long?

Had she been crying?

Had they been arguing before you arrived?

Short answers:

Yes, I had. / No, I hadn't.

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FUTURE SIMPLE (WILL)

The future simple tense is formed with will + base verb.

It is used for decisions made at the moment of speaking:

I'm cold. I **will** close the window.

It is also used for promises, offers, and requests:

I **will** help you with your homework.

Another common use is for predictions based on opinion, not evidence:

I think she **will** succeed.

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FUTURE SIMPLE (WILL)

Negative Form

The negative is formed with will not (won't) + base verb.

Examples:

I won't forget you.

She won't be late.

They won't agree with us.

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FUTURE SIMPLE (WILL)

Question Form

Questions are formed with Will + subject + base verb.

Examples:

Will you help me?

Will she come tonight?

Will they finish on time?

Short answers:

Yes, I will. / No, I won't.

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BE GOING TO

The structure am/is/are + going to + verb is used to talk about future plans made before the moment of speaking:

I am going to study engineering.

It is also used for predictions based on clear evidence:

Look at those dark clouds. **It is going to** rain.

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BE GOING TO

Negative Form

The negative is formed by adding not after the verb to be.

Examples:

I am not going to stay here.

She isn't going to accept the offer.

They aren't going to travel this year.

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BE GOING TO

Question Form

Questions are formed by moving the verb to be before the subject.

Examples:

Am I going to fail?

Is she going to call you?

Are they going to move abroad?

Short answers:

Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.

Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.

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PRESENT SIMPLE WITH FUTURE MEANING

The present simple can describe the future when referring to fixed events, schedules, or timetables:

The flight **leaves** at 8 a.m. tomorrow.

This usage is common in official programs and public transport.

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PRESENT CONTINUOUS WITH FUTURE MEANING

The present continuous is used for personal arrangements that are already planned and confirmed:

We are visiting our grandparents this weekend.

It usually includes a future time expression and implies that the plan is definite.

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Practice

1. She usually _____ (wake up) at 6 a.m.
2. At 9 o'clock yesterday, we _____ (have) breakfast.
3. I _____ (not / finish) my homework yet.
4. They _____ (watch) TV when the power went out.
5. He _____ (work) here since he graduated.
6. Look! The dog _____ (run) after the cat.
7. By the time we arrived, the class _____ (start).
8. I think people _____ (live) on Mars one day.
9. She _____ (meet) her dentist tomorrow afternoon.
10. We _____ (not / go) out last night.

Practice

Complete the sentences (negative or question form)

1. She _____ (not / like) spicy food.
2. _____ you _____ (wait) long when I called?
3. They _____ (not / finish) the project yet.
4. _____ he _____ (play) football when he was a child?
5. I _____ (not / understand) the instructions.
6. _____ she _____ (going to / study) abroad next year?
7. We _____ (not / watching) TV when you arrived.
8. _____ they ever _____ (visit) Paris before 2022?
9. He _____ (not / be) working tomorrow.
10. _____ you _____ (help) me with this?

Practice

Rewrite the sentences (affirmative → negative)

1. She understands the lesson.
2. They were listening carefully.
3. He has been working all day.
4. We finished the test early.
5. I will remember your birthday.
6. She is going to call him.
7. They had completed the task.
8. I am meeting him tonight.

Practice

Rewrite the sentences (affirmative → question)

1. You live near the school.
2. She was sleeping at midnight.
3. They have been studying English.
4. He finished his homework.
5. We will arrive on time.
6. She is going to buy a new phone.
7. They had been waiting long.
8. You are coming tomorrow.

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Practice

Choose will, going to, or present continuous

1. I think it _____ rain later.
2. Look at the sky! It _____ rain.
3. I _____ meet my cousin this evening.
4. Don't worry. I _____ help you.
5. They _____ travel to Spain next month (already arranged).
6. One day, robots _____ replace many jobs.
7. We _____ have dinner with our parents tonight.

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Practice

Complete with the correct relative pronoun

1. The woman _____ lives upstairs is very kind.
2. This is the movie _____ we talked about.
3. The boy _____ father is a pilot wants to travel.
4. The park _____ we used to play is closed.
5. I remember the year _____ I moved here.
6. The car _____ he bought is electric.
7. She met a man _____ helped her.
8. The teacher _____ class is very interesting is absent today.

Practice

Combine the sentences using a relative clause

1. I met a girl. She speaks four languages.
2. This is the book. I borrowed it from you.
3. He lives in a house. The house is very old.
4. She has a friend. Her brother is famous.
5. We visited the city. We were born there.

Practice

Correct the mistakes

1. She don't know the answer.
2. I was cook when you called.
3. He has been work here for years.
4. Did you went to school yesterday?
5. They isn't going to come.
6. We had finish dinner before they arrived.
7. She were waiting outside.
8. The train will leaves at 9 a.m.

Practice

Choose the correct option

1. I didn't see / haven't seen him since Monday.
2. She was studying / studied when the lights went out.
3. By the time we arrived, they left / had left.
4. Look! The baby sleeps / is sleeping.
5. He works / is working in London this month.
6. I promise I help / will help you.
7. The class starts / is starting at 8 tomorrow (official schedule).

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Practice

Sentence transformation

1. She started working here in 2018 and still works here.
2. → She _____ since 2018.
3. They finished dinner, then the guests arrived.
4. → They _____ before the guests
arrived.
5. I plan to study medicine. (use going to)
6. → I _____ medicine.
7. The train departs at 6 a.m. tomorrow. (question form)
8. → _____ at 6 a.m. tomorrow?
9. I was very tired. I had studied all night.
10. → I was very tired because I _____ all
night.

Practice

Writing Practice

Write 120–150 words about:

- A day in your life (present simple)
- What you are doing this week (present continuous)
- What you have been doing recently (present perfect continuous)
- A past experience (past simple & past continuous)
- Your future plans (will, going to, present continuous)

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