

Verbs

In English, verbs carry a lot of information, partly by indicating time (tense) and voice (active or passive). The perfect tense involves using a chain of verbs (to have + the past participle or the present participle), as does passive voice (to be + the past participle), and they all mean something different. For example, take eating. I eat, I have eaten, I had eaten, and I ate, all convey different information.

The table below reviews the verb forms for all seven basic tenses used with I, you, we, they (third-person plural), and he and she (third-person singular). The table also reviews the general meaning of each tense.

Tense	Verb Form	Meaning
Simple Present	I, you, we, they talk he, she, it talks	An action occurring habitually or generally: I talk to my mother every day.
Simple Past	I, you, we, they, he, she, it talked	An action in the past: I talked to my mother yesterday.
Future	I, you, we, they, he, she, it will talk	An action in the future: I will talk to my mother tomorrow.
Present Progressive	I am talking you, we, they are talking he, she, it is talking	An action in progress: I am talking to my mother right now.
Present Perfect	I, you, we, they have talked he, she, it has talked	An action that occurred in the past and continues until present: I have talked to my mother every day this week.
Past Perfect	I, you, we, they, he, she, it had talked	An action from the past that was completed before something else: I had talked to my mother before my brother called her.
Future Perfect	I, you, we, they, he, she, it will have talked	A future action that will be completed at some specific time: I will have talked to my mother for 10 days in a row by this time next week.

The table above is from [www.owl.purdue](http://www.owl.purdue.edu)

Here are a number of websites that can help you sort out verbs:

- Verb Tenses: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/grammar/verb_tenses/index.html
- Auxiliary Verbs: <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/auxiliary.htm>
- Using verbs: <https://arts.uottawa.ca/writingcentre/fr/hypergrammar/using-verbs>

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