



English Tenses

Conversation & Grammar

The Present Tenses

Volume 2



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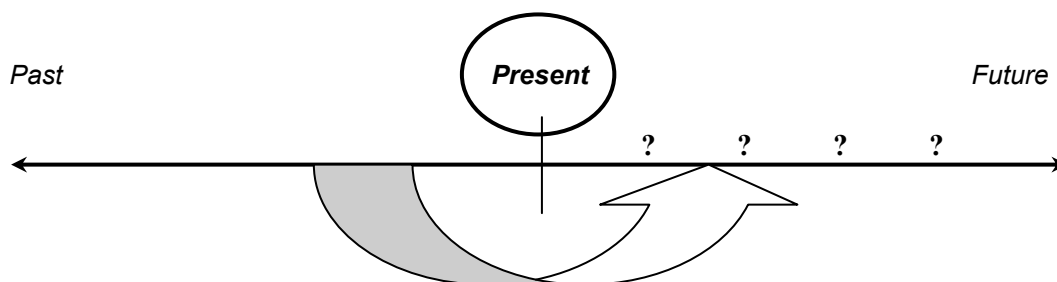
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Time Tenses Log

Print out and use this table to record examples of each tense.

Time Period	Tenses	Usage	Type
Present tense	Present Simple	Statement	Positive 25
			Negative 26
		Question	Positive 27
			Negative 28
		Answer	Positive 29
			Negative 30
	Present Continuous	Statement	Positive 31
			Negative 32
		Question	Positive 33
			Negative 34
		Answer	Positive 35
			Negative 36
	Present Perfect	Statement	Positive 37
			Negative 38
		Question	Positive 39
			Negative 40
Answer		Positive 41	
		Negative 42	
Present Perfect Continuous	Statement	Positive 43	
		Negative 44	
	Question	Positive 45	
		Negative 46	
	Answer	Positive 47	
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Number	Examples		
25.			
26.			
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40.			
41.			
42.			
43.			
44.			
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46.			
47.			
48.			

~ The Present Simple Tense ~



Structure of sentence

Subject + verb (infinitive) + object (Statement)

[3rd singular] Add – s at the end of infinitive (verb)

Signal words for present simple

Usually, often, always, every day/week/month etc.

In English, the *present simple* tense is used for statements of fact & truths, habitual or everyday activities which started in the past and continues into the near future.

Examples of *present simple* in use:

- ☺ I / you run regularly
 - ☺ He / she / it runs regularly
 - ☺ We / they run regularly
 - ☺ Water boils at 100°C (fact, truth, statement)
- } habitual / routines

Using personal pronouns with **am, is, are, have, has, do & does.**

I	-	am	have	do
he	-	is	has	does
she	-	is	has	does
it	-	is	has	does
you	-	are	have	do
we	-	are	have	do
they	-	are	have	do

I am a man/woman

You have a dog (American English) - you have *got* a dog (British English)

She is a small person

They are royal

Statement	-	Positive:	I drive....
		Negative:	I do not walk... (don't)
Question	-	Positive:	Do you read...?
		Negative:	Do you not read.....? (don't you...?)
Answer	-	Positive:	Yes, I do....
		Negative:	No she does not... (doesn't...)

Present Simple

Exercise 1

Arrange the words to make complete sentences in simple present.

1. I / to collect stamps _____
2. we / to play card games (Tuesday) _____
3. he / to read comics (daily) _____
4. Chris / to sing in a band _____
5. she / to be nice _____
6. they / to help their parents (clean house) _____
7. the children / to speak English _____

Exercise 2.

Fill in with either: **does, is or has**.

A: _____ your dad collect stamps?

B: Yes, he _____. He _____ stamps from all over the world.

A: And what about your mum? _____ she collect anything?

B: Well, she likes to collect recipes. She _____ a really good cook.

A: Oh, _____ she cook every day?

B: No, not every day. She _____ usually very busy, but when she _____ time, she likes cooking Mexican food.

A: Oh, Mexican food _____ delicious. _____ she use a lot of different spices?

B: Yes, she _____. She _____ a cupboard with lots of different packets. I don't know what most of them are!

Exercise 3. [Cut out and laminate]

Take a flashcard and form a complete sentence either in the negative form or as a question.

Example:

I watch TV

*I don't watch TV every day.
Do you watch TV every day?
Don't you watch TV every day?*

I watch TV

We play football

It is boring

She cleans her room

You ride your bike every
weekend

Sandy takes nice photos

They open the windows

He buys a new CD

I am late

She has a cat

I read the newspaper

He has a horse

They drive home

You like vodka

I ski in the winter

Exercise 4.

Form the question using: **when, why, where, what, how, who**

1. Julia likes pop-music. _____
2. Maria comes from Spain. _____
3. Rick rides his bike. _____
4. I go to the cinema on Saturdays. _____
5. We go to Mallorca because it is warm there. _____
6. Robin drives his car carefully. _____

Exercise 5.**Student A worksheet**

Ask your partner questions to fill in the missing information. Start some of the questions with the words in brackets.

Hello Peter,

We are here again. We come to (1) every summer. We really like it.

We visit the museums. We walk in (2) in the evening. We eat ice

cream. It is delicious! We often go shopping to (3) It is quite

expensive! In the evenings we go to pubs in (4) (where?). We have

a lot of fun. Mum doesn't (5) (do what?). We go to restaurants. She

really takes a good rest. Dad often tries (6) (do what?). He says he

has forgotten quite a lot of it. I make friends every day. We have a lot of fun

We don't want to leave but we have to. Susan comes back (7)

(when?). I hope to see you next weekend.

Love,

Mary

Exercise 4.

Questions with Interrogatives – *Form the question using: when, why, where, what, how, who*

1. Julia likes pop-music. _____
2. Maria comes from Spain. _____
3. Rick rides his bike. _____
4. I go to the cinema on Saturdays. _____
5. We go to Mallorca because it is warm there. _____
6. Robin drives his car carefully. _____

Exercise 5.**Student B worksheet**

Ask your partner questions to fill in the missing information. Start the questions with the words in brackets.

Hello Peter,

We are here again. We come to New York every (1) (how often?).

We really like it. We visit (2) (what?). We walk in Central Park

(3) (when?). We eat (4) (what?). It is delicious! We

often go shopping to Macy's. It is quite expensive! (5)

(when?) we go to pubs in Manhattan. We have a lot of fun. Mum doesn't

cook. We go to (6) (where?). She really takes (7) (what?).

Dad often tries speaking English. He says (8) (what?) quite a

lot of it. I make friends (9) (when?). We have a lot of fun. We

don't want to leave but we have to. Susan comes back next week, I hope to see you (10) (when?).

*Love,
Mary*

Answers to Present Simple

Ex1.

1. I collect stamps.
2. We play card games every Tuesday.
3. He reads comics every day.
4. Chris sings in a band.
5. She is nice.
6. They help their parents clean the house every.....
7. The children speak English.

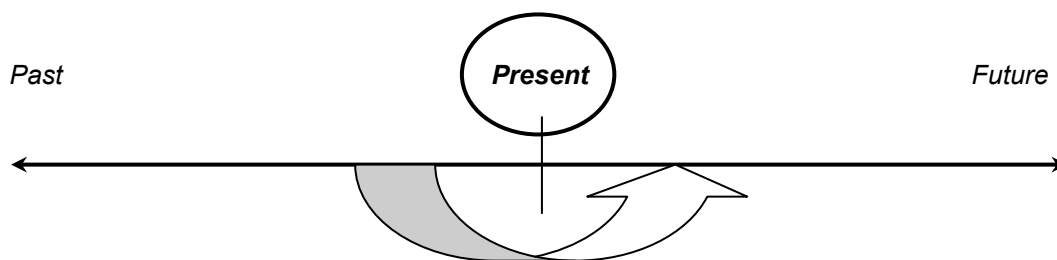
Ex2.

- A Does
B does, has
A does
B has
A does
B is, has
A is, does
B does, has

Ex4.

1. What does Julia like?
2. Where does Maria come from?
3. Who rides his bike?
4. When do you go to the cinema?
5. Why do you go to Mallorca?
6. How does Robin drive his car?

~ The Present Continuous Tense ~



Structure

Subject + 'to be' + infinitive verb + ing

In English, the present continuous is used for action(s) going on in the moment of speaking and for actions taking place only for a short period of time. It is also used for actions that are arranged for the near future (*we are going to the cinema tonight*).

Present continuous is also known as the present progressive.

Examples of *present continuous* in use:

I	am	} studying (<i>now</i>)
you	are	
he	is	
she	is	
it	is	
we	are	
they	are	

Complete each sentence vocally and then write down in the time tenses log table different sentences.

Statement	–	Positive:	They are cleaning.... (they're...)
		Negative:	He is not cleaning.... (isn't...) / (he's not...)
Question	–	Positive:	Is she painting...?
		Negative:	Is she not painting...? (Isn't....)
Answer	–	Positive:	Yes, she is.... Yes, they are...
		Negative:	No she is not... (isn't...) / (she's not....) No, they are not...(aren't...) / (they're not...)

Signal words for present continuous

at the moment, just, just now, Listen!, Look!, now, right now.

Present Continuous

Exercise 1

Use the words below to make sentences in present continuous.

1. I / to read a book _____
2. it / to rain _____
3. he / to repair his bike _____
4. they / to watch a film _____
5. the cat / to sleep on the chair _____
6. Jane and Emily / to do their homework _____
7. Bill / to wait at the bus stop _____
8. we / to listen to the radio _____
9. the children / to play a game _____

Exercise 2

Spelling Exceptions

Use the words below to write sentences in present continuous.

1. He / to get / pretty nervous _____
2. She / to write / a letter _____
3. We / not / to work _____
4. They / to argue _____
5. Look! / The dog / to pee / on the carpet _____
6. I / to meet / my friends tonight _____
7. He / to travel / a lot _____
8. The kids / to play / in the garden _____
9. She / to enter / the house _____

Exercise 3. [Laminate and cut]

Signal words in present continuous

Select a flashcard and choose which one of the three words the question is referring to.

A) Which of the words is a <i>signal</i> word for actions taking place at the moment of speaking? now never sometimes
B) Which of the words is a <i>signal</i> word for actions taking place at the moment of speaking? yesterday tomorrow at the moment
C) Which of the words is a <i>signal</i> word for actions taking place at the moment of speaking? Listen! last night next week
D) Which of the words is not a <i>signal</i> word for actions taking place at the moment of speaking? right now just now every day
E) Which of the words is not a <i>signal</i> word for actions taking place at the moment of speaking? Listen! usually Look!
F) Which of the words can be a <i>signal</i> word for an arrangement for the near future? yesterday in the afternoon last week
G) Which of the words can be a <i>signal</i> word for an arrangement for the near future? tomorrow every week usually
H) Which of the words can be a <i>signal</i> word for an arrangement for the near future? last Sunday every Sunday next Sunday
I) Which of the words cannot be a <i>signal</i> word for an arrangement for the near future? next week last week next Friday
J) Which of the words cannot be a <i>signal</i> word for an arrangement for the near future? never at noon in the morning

Exercise 4.

What are you doing? Select a flash card and "act out" (mime) the action(s) for the class to guess.

Writing a letter, putting it in an envelope and posting it.	Singing at the karaoke
Wrapping up a present/gift	Flying an aeroplane
Climbing a mountain and then falling off !	Listening to your MP3, the batteries die.
Surfing on the internet.	Playing a game of chess.
Winning the lottery	Directing traffic.

Additional Exercise (for one-to-one lessons) [cut out and laminate]

Select a flashcard. Student forms and asks the questions in the present continuous.

You / learn English now?

You / work tomorrow?

Peter / celebrate his birthday today?

I / wear jeans?

The teacher / listen to us?

Your best friend / meet you tonight?

We / watch TV now?

Your best friend / visit Paris next month?

They / go to the cinema tonight?

The sun / shine now?

Answers

Ex1

1. I am reading a book.
2. It is raining.
3. He is repairing his bike.
4. They are watching a film.
5. The cat is sleeping on the chair.
6. Jane and Emily are doing their homework.
7. Bill is waiting at the bus stop.
8. We are listening to the radio.
9. The children are playing a game.

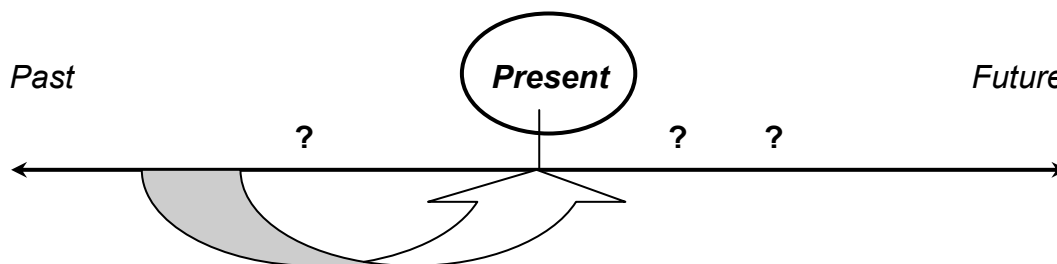
Ex2

1. He is getting pretty nervous.
2. She is writing a letter.
3. We are not working.
4. They are arguing.
5. Look! The dog is peeing on the carpet.
6. I am meeting my friends tonight.
7. He is travelling a lot. (*American English is one L*)
8. The kids are playing in the garden.
9. She is entering the house.

Ex3

- A) now
- B) at the moment
- C) listen!
- D) every day
- E) usually
- F) in the afternoon
- G) tomorrow
- H) next Sunday
- I) last week
- J) never

~ The Present Perfect Tense ~



Structure

Subject + have/has + verb *past participle* ('ed' for regular verbs).

The Present Perfect is used for an action that started in the past at an *unspecified time and is still going on (or) stopped recently, but has an influence on the present. It puts emphasis on the result. The action could be repeated at anytime in the near future.

*If you use a specified time within the sentence then you must use the *past simple*!

e.g: I have just phoned Mary (*present perfect*). I phoned Mary two minutes ago (*past simple*).

Examples of *present perfect* in use:

I	have
you	
he	has
she	
it	
we	have
they	

Signal words for present perfect
already, ever, just, never, not yet, so far, till now, up to now.

washed the car (*now*)

- Emphasis on the result = She has *written* five letters.
- Action still going on = School has not *started* yet.
- Action that stopped recently = She has *cooked* dinner.
- Past action influencing the present = I have *lost* my key.
- Action that has taken place once, never or several = I have never *been* to Australia.

Statement	–	Positive:	She has painted....
		Negative:	She has not read... (hasn't)
Question	–	Positive:	Have they built...?
		Negative:	Have we not watched....? (haven't we...?)
Answer	–	Positive:	Yes, he has....
		Negative:	No I have not... (haven't...)

Present Perfect

Exercise 1

Fill the gaps with 'have' or 'has'.

1. I have/has answered the question.
2. She have/has opened the window.
3. They have/has called us.
4. You have/has carried a box.
5. It have/has rained a lot.
6. We have/has washed the car.
7. He have/has closed the window.
8. Jenny have/has locked the door.
9. The girls have/has visited the museum.
10. John and Sophie have/has helped in the garden.

Exercise 2

Ask your partner the following questions and report back to the class on their answers.

Question	Answer (yes/no)
Have you ever been to America?	
Have you ever wanted to fly an aeroplane?	
Has one of your friends ever been arrested by the Police?	
Have you ever lost your mobile phone?	
Has a friend ever asked you to lend them some money?	

Exercise 3 [text 1]

Read the short text. What people have used in the past to slide down snow-covered hills.

To say who actually invented the sport of snowboarding would be impossible because people have always loved to slide down a snow-covered hill. Soaring through the snow on some kind of seat or board is nothing new. The ways to enjoy the snow are numerous, and people have devised ways to turn dustbin lids and cardboard into 'snow boards' to enjoy an afternoon frolic outdoors. The various ways to glide through snow have become more sophisticated and have evolved into using polished boards or skis in much the same manner as a surfboarder would ride a wave.



Exercise 3b

Underline the "Present Perfect" tenses in the story above.

Exercise 4 [text 2]

Read the short text about **Loch Ness** for general understanding.



Loch Ness is a lake between the Scottish towns of Inverness and Fort Augustus. The word loch is Scottish for lake. Loch Ness is about 37 km long and extremely deep, the deepest part is 226 meters. Loch Ness is famous for its friendly monster, Nessie. Most people think that this is only a legend, but every year tourists from all over the world come to Loch Ness and hope that they will see the monster.

Write the verbs in brackets in the present perfect tense.

1. Tourists from all over the world (be) _____ to Loch Ness.
2. Most of them (see / not) _____ Nessie, however.
3. Only very few people say that the Loch Ness Monster (appear) _____ in front of them.
4. Even scientists (come) _____ to Loch Ness to find the monster.
5. And the boss of the Guinness brewery (promise) _____ to pay 500,000 Pounds to the person who catches Nessie.

Exercise 5

Put the verbs into the correct form (present perfect).

1. I (not / work) _____ today.
2. We (buy) _____ a new lamp.
3. We (not / plan) _____ our holiday yet.
4. Where (be / you) _____ ?
5. He (write) _____ five letters.
6. She (not / see) _____ him for a long time.
7. (be / you) _____ at school?
8. School (not / start) _____ yet.
9. (speak / he) _____ to his boss?
10. No, he (have / not) _____ the time yet.

Exercise 6 [Cut out and laminate]

What has just happened?

Students take a picture and using present perfect say what has just happened.

The students' need to look at the clues in the pictures to work out what the people were doing in the immediate past. For example:

"In the picture I can see a group of people holding up a trophy. They are all smiling and very happy. I think that they have just played a game of football and won!"



Answers

Ex1

1. have
2. has
3. have
4. have
5. has
6. have
7. has
8. has
9. have
10. have

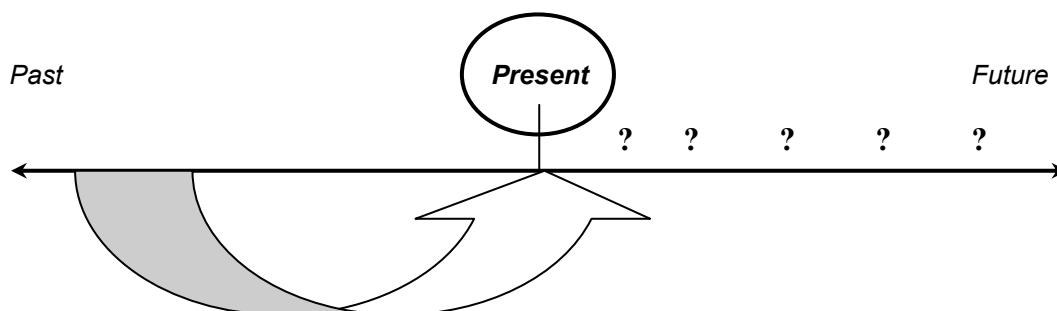
Ex4

1. have been
2. have not seen
3. has appeared
4. have come
5. has promised

Ex5

1. I **have not** worked today.
2. We **have bought** a new lamp.
3. We **have not planned** our holiday yet.
4. Where **have you been**?
5. He **has written** five letters.
6. She **has not seen** him for a long time.
7. **Have you been** at school?
8. School **has not started** yet.
9. **Has he spoken** to his boss?
10. No, he **has not had** the time yet.

~ The Present Perfect Continuous Tense ~




Structure

Subject + have/has + been + ing

The present perfect continuous tense is used for an action that began at a specific time in the past & continues to the present.

Examples of *present perfect* continuous in use:

I	have been		studying English for five years
you			
<hr/>			
he	has been		
she			
it			
<hr/>			
we	have been		
they			

Statement	–	Positive:	You have been typing....
		Negative:	It has not been eating... (hasn't)
Question	–	Positive:	Have they been running...?
		Negative:	Have I not been helping.....? (haven't...?)
Answer	–	Positive:	Yes, she has.
		Negative:	No we have not.

Signal words for present perfect

all day, for 4 years, since 1993, how long?
the whole week

Present Perfect Continuous

Exercise 1

Decide whether to use **“have”** or **“has”**.

1. She *have / has* been asking questions all day long.
2. They *have / has* been climbing the mountain.
3. We *have / has* been washing the dishes.
4. You *have / has* been repairing your computer.
5. I *have / has* been working.
6. It *have / has* been snowing.
7. The boy *have / has* been playing.
8. Caty *have / has* been dreaming.
9. The men *have / has* been digging a hole.
10. Cindy and Bob *have / has* been studying English.

Exercise 2

Decide whether you have to use **“since”** or **“for”**.

- ✓ **Since** – if the starting point is given (two o'clock, last Friday, 1998)
- ✓ **For** – if the period of time is given (twenty minutes, two days, one year)

1. I have been waiting *since / for* 4 o'clock.
2. Sue has only been waiting *since / for* 20 minutes.
3. Tim and Tina have been learning English *since / for* six years.
4. Fred and Frida have been learning French *since / for* 1998.
5. Joe and Josephine have been going out together *since / for* Valentine's Day.
6. I haven't been on holiday *since / for* last July.
7. Mary has been saving her money *since / for* many years.
8. I haven't eaten anything *since / for* breakfast.
9. You have been watching TV *since / for* hours.
10. We have been living here *since / for* 2 months.

Exercise 3. [Cut out and laminate]

Student select a card and put the verbs into the correct form (present perfect continuous) by reading out the sentence. For Example: He **has been working** in this company **since** 1985.

He (work) ? ? ? ? in this company **since** / **for** 1985.

I (wait) ? ? ? ? for you **since** / **for** two o'clock.

Mary (live) ? ? ? ? in Germany **since** / **for** 1992.

“Why is he so tired?”

“He (play) ? ? ? ? tennis **since** / **for** five hours”.

How long (you / learn) ? ? ? ? English?

We (look for) ? ? ? ? the motorway **since** / **for** more than an hour.

I (live) ? ? ? ? without electricity **since** / **for** two weeks.

The film (run / not) ? ? ? ? **since** / **for** ten minutes and there's already a commercial break.

How long (work / she) ? ? ? ? in the garden?

She (work) ? ? ? ? in the garden **since** / **for** 2pm.

Exercise 4 part 1

Students are to write down 3 questions to ask any student using present perfect continuous form.

For example:

"What have you been doing at the weekend?"

1)

.....

2)

.....

3)

.....

Part 2

Pick three students and ask each of them one of your questions. Write down the answers to your questions and report the answers back to the class.

1)

.....

2)

.....

3)

.....

Answers for present perfect continuous

Ex1.

1. Has
2. Have
3. Have
4. Have
5. Have
6. Have
7. Has
8. Has
9. Have
10. have

Ex2.

1. Since
2. For
3. For
4. Since
5. Since
6. since
7. For
8. Since
9. For
10. For

That completes the present tenses.