

# ENGLISH TENSES

**A real tool to correct your tongue**

**By**

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## Present Continuous( I am doing)

**(Rekha is in her car. She is on her way to work)**

She is driving to work.

**This means : she is driving now, at the time of speaking. The action is not finished.**

**I am doing something=**

- 1. Please don't make so much noise, I am trying to work.**
- 2. Where's Ravi? – He's having a shower.**
- 3. Let's go out now. It isn't raining any more.**
- 4. Hello, Nisha. Are you enjoying the party?**
- 5. Pravin wants to work in Japan, so he's learning Japanese.**
- 6. One of my friends is building his own house.**
- 7. Is your English getting better?**
- 8. The population of the world is increasing very fast.**

## Present Simple ( I do)

We use the simple present to talk about things in general:

1. Nurses look after patients in hospital.
2. The earth goes round the Sun.
3. The café opens at 7.30 am in the morning.

We use do/does to make questions and negative sentences:

1. I come from India. Where do you come from?
2. I don't go away very often.
3. What do you do? I work in a shop.
4. He's always so lazy. He doesn't do anything to help

**We use the simple present to say how often we do things:**

- 1. I get up at 6 o'clock every morning.**
- 2. How often do you go to the beauty Parlour?**
- 3. Mr. Khanna usually goes abroad two or three times a year.**

**I Promise/ I apologize:**

- 1. I promise I won't be late.**
- 2. What do you suggest I do?**
- 3. I apologize...**
- 4. I advise...**
- 5. I agree...**
- 6. I refuse....**

## Present Continuous and Present Simple I am doing and I do

The water is boiling. Can you turn it off?

Lets go out. It isn't raining now.

I am getting hungry. Let's go and eat.

You are working hard today.

The boil water is good to throat.

It doesn't rain very much in summer.

I always get hungry in the afternoon.

John isn't lazy. He works hard most of the time.

## Exercise 1. : (Present Continuous Tense)

1. The Telephone (ring).
2. We (visit) the museum tomorrow.
3. The teacher (write) on the blackboard.
4. You (drive) very fast.
5. She (take) dancing lesson this summer.

## Exercise 2.: ( Make the negative and Interrogative)

1. Tom likes sweet.
2. You know the girl.
3. They sell eggs.
4. Rahim believes in ghost.
5. The boys swim daily.

## Past Simple (I did)

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was an Austrian musician and composer. He lived from 1756 to 1791. He started composing at the age of five and wrote more than 600 pieces of music. He was only 35 years old when he died.**

**Lived / started / wrote / was / died --- are all past simple**

**Very often past simple ends in -ed (regular verbs)**

- 1. We invited them to our party, but they decided not to come.**
- 2. The police stopped me on my way home last night.**
- 3. Amit passed his examination because he studied very hard.**

**But many verbs are irregular...**

**Write**

**Wrote**

**I wrote a novel last year.**

**See**

**Saw**

**We saw a Tiger in the zoo.**

**Go**

**Went**

**I went to the cinema last night.**

**Shut**

**Shut**

**It was cold, so I shut the window.**



In question and negatives we use **did/ didn't + infinitive**  
(enjoy/ see/ go....etc)

- **Did you go out last night?**
- **Yes, I went to the cinema, but I didn't enjoy the film much.**
- **They didn't invite her to the party, so she didn't go.**
- **Did you have time to write the letter? No I didn't.**
  
- **What did you do at the weekend?**
- **I didn't do anything,**

### Exercise 3. : (Past Tense)

1. They (stay) in Pune for two months.
2. The play (begin) at 8.15.
3. The boy (break ) the glass.
4. He (prepare) his lesson well
5. He (sell) the house last month.

### Exercise 4. :make the following Negative and Interrogative

1. He passed his examination.
2. They went by plane.
3. She sang well.
4. She returned all the books
5. They flew to America.

## Past Continuous (I was doing)

Yesterday Karan and Swati played tennis. They began at 10 o'clock and finished at 11.30.

So at 10.30 they were playing tennis

1. This time last year I was living in London.
2. What were you doing at 10 o'clock last night?
3. I waved to Helen, but she wasn't looking.
4. Manish phoned while we were having dinner.
5. It was raining when I got up.
6. I saw you in the park yesterday. You were sitting on the grass and reading a book.
7. I hurt my back while I was working in the garden.

## Exercise 5. : (Past Continuous Tense)

1. It (rain) when I (leave) the office.
2. I (see) your uncle while I (go) to school.
3. The boy (fall) down while he (run).
4. When the telegram (arrive), I (pack) a suitcase.
5. Padma (play) the piano when we (return).

## Present Perfect ( I have done)

Tom is looking for his keys. He can't find it.  
*He has lost his keys.*

He lost his keys = He lost it recently, and he still doesn't have it

❖ The present perfect is have/has + past participle. The past participle often ends in –ed (finished/ decided etc.), but many important verbs are irregular (lost/ done/ written etc.)

1. Ow ! I've cut my finger.
2. The road is closed. There's been (there has been) an accident.
3. Police have arrested two men in connection with robbery.
4. He told me his name, but I've forgotten it.
5. Is Nitu here? No, She's gone out.
6. I can't find my bag. Have you seen it?

□ We can use the present perfect with just, already and yet

1. Are you hungry. No , I have just had it.
2. Hello. Have you just arrived.
3. Don't forget to send the mail. I've already sent it.
4. What time is the Principal leaving. He's already gone.
5. Has it stopped raining yet?
6. I've written the mail, but I haven't sent it yet.

## ❑ Study the conversation:

1. Amit: Have you travelled a lot, manisha?
2. Manisha: Yes. I've been to lots of places.
3. Amit: Really? Have you ever been to China?
4. Manisha: Yea, I've been to China Twice.
5. Amit: what about Japan?
6. Manisha: No, I haven't been to Japan.

## ❑ The speakers are talking about a period that continuous until now:

1. Have you heard from America recently. ( About Elections)
2. I've met lots of people in the last few days.
3. Everything is going well. We haven't had any problem so far.
4. I'm hungry. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast.
5. It's good to see you again. We haven't seen each other for a long time.



# Make it Present Perfect

1. I (write) a letter to the Chief Minister.
2. The door of the temple (close) just now
3. The Prime- Minister (announce) a mega package for Bihar
4. I (have) my supper just.
5. He (leave) these things for you.

## Present Perfect Continuous I have been doing

### A. It has been raining:

(Is it raining?)

No, but the ground is wet.)

It has been raining.

**Have / has been + -ing is the present perfect continuous.**

1. You are out of breath. Have you been running?
2. Paul is very tired. He's been working very hard.
3. Why are your cloths so dirty? What have you been doing?
4. I've been talking to my teacher about my difficulties in study.

## B. It has been raining for two hours.

(It began raining two hours ago and it is still raining.)

How long has it been raining?

It has been raining for two hour.

The activity is still happening or has just stopped.

1. How long have you been learning English?
2. Guddu is still watching television. He's been watching television all day.
3. Where have you been? I've been looking for you for the last couple of hour.
4. Chris hasn't been feeling well recently.

# Compare Present Perfect Continuous & Present Perfect:

1. My hand are very dirty. I've been repairing the car.
  2. Joe has been eating too much recently. He should eat less.
  3. It's nice to see you again. What have you been doing since we last met?
  4. Where have you been ? Have you been playing tennis?
1. The car is OK again now. I've repaired it.
  2. Somebody has eaten all my chocolates. The box is empty.
  3. Where's the books I gave you? What have you done with it?
  4. Have you ever played tennis?

# Present Perfect ( I have done ) & Past ( I did )

❑ Do not use the present perfect ( I have done) when you talk about a finished time. Use a past tense.

1. It was very cold yesterday. (~~has been~~)

2. Paul and Lucy arrived ten minutes ago. (~~have arrived~~)

3. Did you eat a lot of sweets , when you were a child?

( ~~have you eaten~~ )

1. It hasn't rained this week
2. Have you seen Mahesh this morning?
3. Kaka lives in London. He has been living there for seven years.

1. It didn't rain last week.
2. Did you see Mahesh on Sunday?
3. Kaka lived in France for five years. Now he lives in London.

## Past Perfect ( I had done)

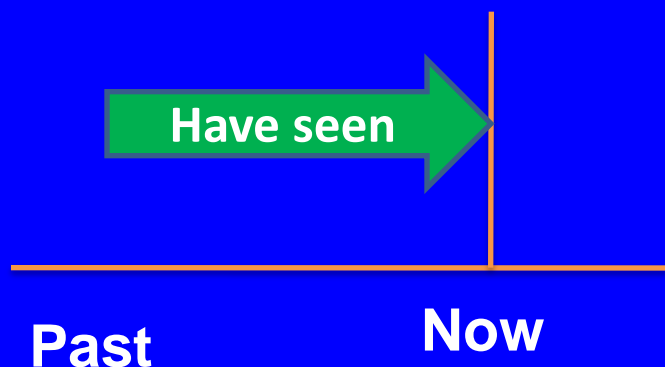
Aishvarya went to a party last week. Salman went to party too, but they didn't see each other. Salman left the party at 8.30 and Aishvarya arrived at 9.00 o'clock. So when Aishvarya arrived at party Salman wasn't there.

He had gone home. (Had gone is the past perfect.)

### See the examples:

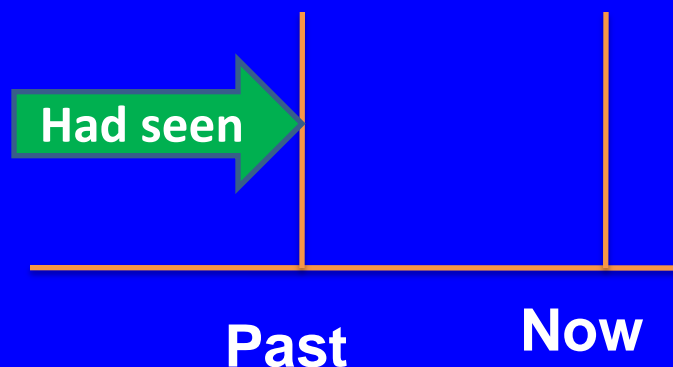
1. When Aishvarya arrived at party, Salman had already gone home.
2. When we got home last night, we found that somebody had broken into the flat.
3. The man sitting next to me on the plane was very nervous. He hadn't flown before.

## Present Perfect



1. Who is that woman? I've never seen her before.
2. We aren't hungry. We've just had lunch.
3. The house is dirty. They haven't cleaned it for weeks.

## Past Perfect



1. I didn't know who she was. I'd never seen her before.
2. We weren't hungry. We'd just had lunch.
3. The house was dirty . They hadn't cleaned it for weeks.



## Past perfect Continuous (I had been doing)

Yesterday morning I got up and looked out of the window. The sun was shining, but the ground was very wet.

**It had been raining.**

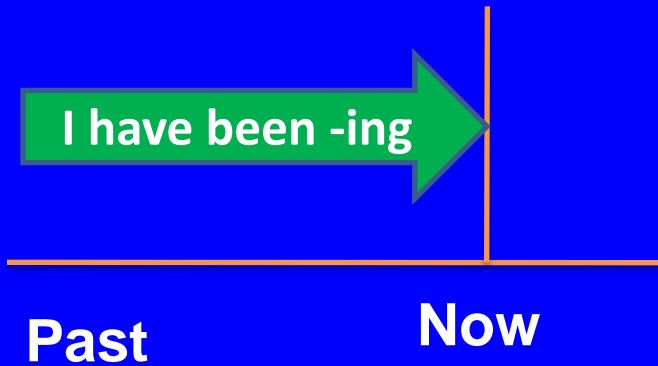
It was not raining when I looked out of the window; the sun was shining. But it had been raining before.

*Had been –ing* is the past perfect continuous

## Some Example:

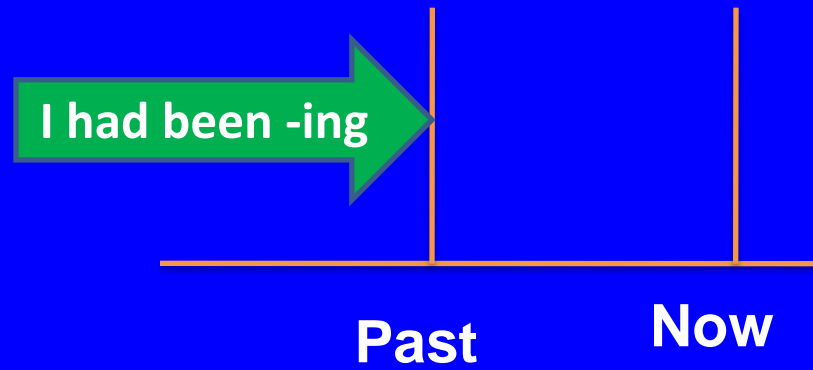
1. When the boys came into the house, their clothes were dirty, their hair was untidy and one of them had a black eye. They had been fighting.
2. I was very tired when I got home. I'd been working hard all day.
3. We'd been playing tennis for about half an hour when it started to rain heavily.
4. He had been driving a car for two days when he had an accident.
5. He said he had been waiting for the last half an hour.

## Present Perfect Continuous



1. I hope the bus comes soon. I've been waiting for 20 minutes.
2. James is out of breath. He has been running

## Past Perfect Continuous



1. At last the bus came. I'd been waiting for 20 minutes
2. James was out of breath. He'd been running.

## Exercise: ( Past Perfect Continuous )

1. The two boys came into the house. They had a football and they were both very tired..  
( they / play / football).: They had been playing football.
2. I was disappointed when I had to cancel my holiday.  
(I / look / forward to it)-----
3. When I got home Ravi was sitting in front of T.V. He had just turned it off.  
(he / watch / a film)-----

**Have got & Have**  
(no difference in meaning)  
= for possession, relationship, illness, etc.

- |                             |    |                         |
|-----------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1. They 've got a new car.  | or | They have a new car.    |
| 2. Amita's got two brothers | or | Amita has two brothers. |
| 3. I've got a headache.     | or | I have a headache.      |
| 4. He's got a few problems. | or | He has a few problems.  |

## In questions & negative sentences

Have you got any questions?  
Do you have any questions?

I haven't got any questions.  
I don't have any questions.

Has she got a car?  
Does she have a car?

She hasn't got a car.  
She doesn't have a car.

## Present Tenses ( I am doing / I do) For the Future

☐ I'm doing something (tomorrow)= I 've decided and arranged to do it:

A: What are you doing on Saturday evening?

B: I'm going to the theatre.

A: What time is Priya arriving tomorrow?

B: Half past ten. I am meeting her at the station.

1. I'm not working tomorrow, so we go out somewhere.

2. Ronaldo isn't playing tomorrow. He's hurt his leg.

3. I'm tired. I'm going to bed tonight.

4. Alka is getting married next month.

## Present Tenses ( I am doing / I do) For the Future

□ We use the present simple when we talk about timetables, programmes, etc.

1. My train leaves at 11.30, so I need be at the station by 11.15.
2. What time does ~~Here Will~~ ning?
3. It's Sunday tomorrow.
4. I start my new job on Monday.
5. What time do you finish work tomorrow?

## Will / Shall 1

**We use I'll (= I will) when we decided to do something at the time of speaking:**

1. Oh, I've left the door open. I'll go and shut it.
2. What would you like to drink? I'll take Coffee only.
3. Did you phone Kiran?      Oh no, I forgot. I'll phone him now.



We often use will in these situations:

❑Offering to do something:

That bag looks heavy. I'll help you with it.

❑Agreeing to do something:

1. Can you give Amol this book?

2. Sure, I'll give it to him when I see him this evening.

❑Promising to do something:

1. Thanks for lending me the money. I'll pay you back on Monday.

2. Don't worry, I'll hand over this parcel to your mother only.

❑Asking somebody to do something:

Will you please turn the DJ down? We're studying.

**Shall I ----? Shall we---? to ask somebody's opinion  
(especially in offers or suggestions):**

1. Shall I open the window?
2. I've got no money. What shall I do?
3. Shall we go?            Just a minute. I'm not ready yet.
4. Where shall we go this Sunday for picnic.

## We often use will ( 'll ) with:

**Probably**

I'll probably be home late tonight.

**I expect**

I haven't seen Asha today. I expect she'll phone this evening.

**(I'm ) sure**

Don't worry about the exam. I'm sure you'll pass.

**( I ) think**

Do you think Sarika will like the present we bought her.

**( I ) don't think**

I don't think the exam will be very difficult.

**I wonder**

I wonder what will happen.

## Will be doing and Will have done

### A. Imagine:

The people are standing in a queue to get into the cinema.

Half an hour from now, the cinema will be full.  
Everyone **will be watching** the film.

Three hours from now, the cinema will be empty.  
The film **will have finished**  
Everybody **will have gone** home.

**B. I'll be doing something ( future continuous ) = I will be in the middle of doing it:**

- This time next week I'll be on holiday. I'll be swimming in the river.
- You have no chance of getting job. You'll be wasting time if you apply for it.

**Compare : will be (do)ing and will (do)**

- ❑ Don't phone between 7 and 8. we'll be having dinner.
- ❑ Let's wait for Monika to arrive and then we'll take dinner.

**C. We also use will be –ing in a different way: to talk about complete actions in the future.**

1. The government will be making a statement about the crisis later today.
2. Will you be going away this summer?
3. Later in the programme, I'll be talking to the Minister of Education.
4. Our best player is injured and won't be playing in the game on Sunday.

**D. We use will have (done) (Future perfect) to say that something will already be complete before a time in the future.**

1. Sawli always leaves for work at 8.30 in the morning. She won't be home at 9 o'clock- she will have gone to work.
2. She will have left before you go to see her.
3. We're late. The film Will already have started by the time we get to the cinema.
4. Next year they will have been married for 25 years.
5. I'll call for you at 8. will you have had dinner by then.

## Can, Could, and ( be ) able to

- A. We use can to say that something is allowed, or that somebody has the ability to do something.**
- **We use can + infinitive ( can do/ can see etc.)**

For examples:

1. We can see the lake from our college terrace.
2. I haven't got a pen. - Can you use mine.
3. Can you speak any foreign language?
4. I can come and see you tomorrow if you like.
5. We can see the movie at my home also.



**B. We can say that somebody is able to do something, but can is more usual:**

- ❑ I can't sleep in such a big noise.
- ❑ I haven't been able to sleep recently
- ❑ Ravi can come tomorrow.
- ❑ Ravi must be able to come tomorrow.
- ❑ Anita can speak more than five foreign languages.
- ❑ Applicants for the job must be able to speak two foreign languages.

**C. Sometimes could is the past of can. We use could especially with:**

**See hear smell taste feel remember understand**

1. We had a lovely place for college. We could see the lake.
2. As soon as I walked into the room, I could smell gas.
3. We were totally free. We could do what we were wanted.

## D. Could and was able to:

We use could for general ability. But if we want to say somebody did something in a specific situation, **was/ were able to or managed to** is used.

1. The fire spread through the building very quickly, but fortunately every body was able to escape.
2. We didn't know where little Guddu was, but we managed to find him in the end.

## Must and Can't

❑ You can use must to say that you believe something is certain:

1. You've been travelling all day. You must be tired.

2. (Raghu is a hard worker.) Raghu? You must be joking.

He doesn't do anything.

1. Saru must get bored in her job. She does the same thing every day.

2. I am sure Prof. Gaikwad gave me his phone no. I must have it somewhere.

3. You've just had lunch. You can't hungry.

4. They haven't lived here for very long. They can't know many people.

For the past we must **use have (done) and can't have (done: )**

1. I didn't hear the phone. I must have been asleep.
2. 'I've lost one of my gloves.                    'You must have dropped it somewhere.'
3. Sara hasn't contacted me . She can't have got my message.
4. Pawan walked into a wall. He can't have been looking where he was going.

## Study the Structures:

<p>I / you / he /etc</p>	<p>Must Can't</p>	<p>be ( tired / hungry / at work etc) Be ( doing / going / joking etc.) Do/ get / know / have etc.</p>
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<p>I / you / he /etc</p>	<p>Must Can't</p>	<p>Have</p>	<p>Been (asleep / at work etc.) Been ( doing / looking etc) Gone / got / known etc.</p>
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# May and Might

You are looking for the Principal:

Where's the Principal?

He may be in his office.

He might be having lunch.

Ask the peon, he might know