**Table of English Tenses**

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| **Tense****(weblink)** | **Affirmative/Negative/****Question** | **Use** | **Signal Words** |
| [**Simple Present**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/simple-present)  | A: He speaks.N: He does not speak.Q: Does he speak?  | * action in the present taking place regularly, never or several times
* facts
* actions taking place one after another
* action set by a timetable or schedule
 | always, every …, never, normally, often, seldom, sometimes, usuallyif sentences type I (If I talk, …)  |
| [**Present Progressive**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/present-progressive)  | A: He is speaking.N: He is not speaking.Q: Is he speaking?  | * action taking place in the moment of speaking
* action taking place only for a limited period of time
* action arranged for the future
 | at the moment, just, just now, Listen!, Look!, now, right now  |
| [**Simple Past**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/simple-past)  | A: He spoke.N: He did not speak.Q: Did he speak?  | * action in the past taking place once, never or several times
* actions taking place one after another
* action taking place in the middle of another action
 | yesterday, 2 minutes ago, in 1990, the other day, last Fridayif sentence type II (If I talked, …)  |
| [**Past Progressive**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/past-progressive)  | A: He was speaking.N: He was not speaking.Q: Was he speaking? | * action going on at a certain time in the past
* actions taking place at the same time
* action in the past that is interrupted by another action
 | while, as long as  |
| [**Present Perfect Simple**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/present-perfect-simple)  | A: He has spoken.N: He has not spoken.Q: Has he spoken?  | * putting emphasis on the result
* action that is still going on
* action that stopped recently
* finished action that has an influence on the present
* action that has taken place once, never or several times before the moment of speaking
 | already, ever, just, never, not yet, so far, till now, up to now  |
| [**Present Perfect Progressive**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/present-perfect-progressive)  | A: He has been speaking.N: He has not been speaking.Q: Has he been speaking?  | * putting emphasis on the course or duration (not the result)
* action that recently stopped or is still going on
* finished action that influenced the present
 | all day, for 4 years, since 1993, how long?, the whole week  |
| [**Past Perfect Simple**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/past-perfect-simple)  | A: He had spoken.N: He had not spoken.Q: Had he spoken?  | * action taking place before a certain time in the past
* sometimes interchangeable with past perfect progressive
* putting emphasis only on the fact (not the duration)
 | already, just, never, not yet, once, until that dayif sentence type III (If I had talked, …)  |
| [**Past Perfect Progressive**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/past-perfect-progressive)  | A: He had been speaking.N: He had not been speaking.Q: Had he been speaking?  | * action taking place before a certain time in the past
* sometimes interchangeable with past perfect simple
* putting emphasis on the duration or course of an action
 | for, since, the whole day, all day  |
| [**Future I Simple**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/future-1-will)  | A: He will speak.N: He will not speak. Q: Will he speak?  | * action in the future that cannot be influenced
* spontaneous decision
* assumption with regard to the future
 | in a year, next …, tomorrowIf-Satz Typ I (If you ask her, she will help you.)assumption: I think, probably, perhaps  |
| [**Future II Progressive**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/future-2-progressive)  | A: He will have been speaking.N: He will not have been speaking.Q: Will he have been speaking?  | * action taking place before a certain time in the future
* putting emphasis on the course of an action
 | for …, the last couple of hours, all day long  |
| [**Conditional I Simple**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/conditional-1-simple)  | A: He would speak.N: He would not speak.Q: Would he speak? | * action that might take place
 | if sentences type II(If I were you, I would go home.)  |
| [**Conditional II Simple**](https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/conditional-2-simple)  | A: He would have spoken.N: He would not have spoken.Q: Would he have spoken? | * action that might have taken place in the past
 | if sentences type III(If I had seen that, I would have helped.)  |