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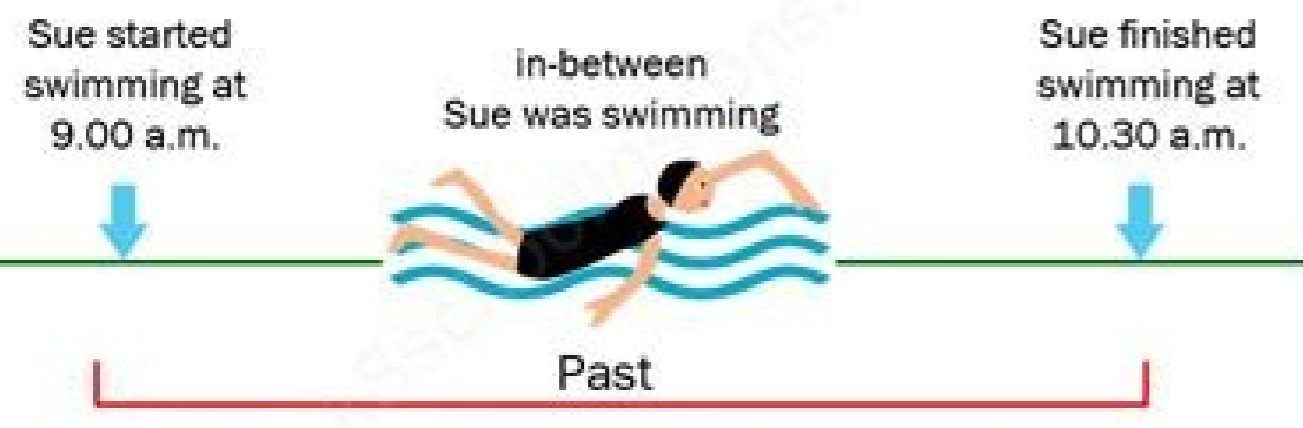
### The Present and Past Tense of "to Be"

Present Tense	Simple Past Tense
I am	I was
You are	You were
He/she/it is	He/she/it was
We are	We were
You (plural) are	You (plural) were
They are	They were

ThoughtCo.

## Past Continuous Tense

### Explanation of the Past Continuous Tense



parlare	prendere	
parlo	prendo	P
parli	prendi	P
parla	prende	P
parliamo	prendiamo	P



# 50

# SENTENCES

## Past Continuous Tense



EnglishGrammarSoft

- 1 I **was watching** TV yesterday in the evening.
- 2 She **was sleeping** on the couch.
- 3 The dog **was barking**.
- 4 I **was talking** with James when the telephone rang.
- 5 While Angelica **was playing** tennis, the plane crashed.
- 6 When Bob **was painting** windows, it started raining.
- 7 I **was watching** TV and Barbara **was reading** a book.
- 8 The family **was eating** dinner and **talking**.
- 9 When Bob **was painting** windows, Mary **was working** in the kitchen.
- 10 I **was wondering** if you could open the window.
- 11 I **was thinking** you might help me with this problem.
- 12 Yesterday evening, while I **was watching** television, the phone rang.
- 13 When my husband arrived home yesterday evening, I **was cooking** dinner.
- 14 The **baby was crying** in the cradle.
- 15 I **was playing** the flute yesterday.
- 16 I **was sleeping** soundly.
- 17 It **was hailing** yesterday.
- 18 We **were playing** hockey.
- 19 I **was washing** the car while my wife **was cleaning** the home.
- 20 I **was reading** a book while the kids were watching TV.
- 21 I **was leaving** the office when it started raining.
- 22 She **was enjoying** the weather at the park.
- 23 The couple **was eating** ice cream and walking.
- 24 The kids **were playing** in the park when I was walking.
- 25 He **was writing** an article when she was sleeping.
- 26 She **was cooking** the food when I was watching the TV.
- 27 I **was preparing** to go out, the doorbell rang.
- 28 When I **was walking**, I slipped.
- 29 I **was going** to the restaurant yesterday at this time.
- 30 She **was studying** physics all day yesterday.
- 31 He **was not listening** to me.
- 32 Bob **was not cutting** the trees.
- 33 She **was not agreeing** with my opinion while I was talking to her.
- 34 I **was not accepting** her invitation.
- 35 He **was not taking** the medicines regularly.
- 36 She **was not taking** care of her child.
- 37 They **were not helping** each other.
- 38 She **was not attending** the classes regularly.
- 39 I **was not watching** TV when she came.
- 40 He **was not studying** chemistry yesterday.
- 41 What **were you doing** while you **were waiting**?
- 42 Why **were you laughing**?
- 43 **Was she burning** the fire?
- 44 Who **was standing** at the door?
- 45 For whom **were people waiting** for?
- 46 Where **were you working** last year?
- 47 **Was Jimmy broadcasting** the news?
- 48 Why **were you quarreling** with your brother?
- 49 **Were you preparing** for the final exam?
- 50 Why **was he going** to hospital yesterday?



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The **simple present tense** expresses an action that is currently going on or habitually performed, or a general truth.

**Complete each sentence by changing the verb in () to present tense.**

- ➔ He (cut) cuts the grass.
- ➔ I (watch) watch television in the morning.
- ➔ Sam (write) writes in his journal every day.
- ➔ We (eat) eat lunch at 12:30.
- ➔ I can't (find) find my other shoe!
- ➔ Grandma (make) makes the best cookies.
- ➔ He (paint) paints the house.
- ➔ Emma (ride) rides her bike to my house.
- ➔ The train (stop) stops in New York.
- ➔ We (play) play football in the park every day.
- ➔ Frank (walk) walks to the park when the weather is nice.
- ➔ Michael and Jeanie always (bake) bake pies after they go apple picking.
- ➔ I (follow) follow the directions in the recipe when I cook.
- ➔ Mary and I (argue) argue everyday about what we should do.
- ➔ Jessie (shiver) shivers when it gets cold and she doesn't have her sweater.

Choose the correct past tense form of the following verb. \* What is the past tense form of the verb to choose. Choose the positive or negative form of the verb in the simple past tense. Choose the correct form of the verb to be in the simple past tense. Choose the correct form of the verb in past progressive tense.

We call this tense the present perfect tense. The kids played. We call this tense the future perfect tense. When the future verb has any other subject, we use the word "will" to form the future. Each of these time forms is called a tense of the verb. Principal Parts of a Verb When we combine the three perfect tenses with the three principal tenses, we have a verb with six tenses. I saw I walked I was I laughed I smiled I wrote The future tense of a verb denotes future time. In other words, the action of the verb is completed at the time of speaking or writing. What we can say is, "I have written the novel"—this verb tells that I completed the writing at the present time. Each tense refers to action taking place in one of the main divisions of time — present time, past time, or future time. Examples: I walk, I walked; I enjoy, I enjoyed; I hope, I hoped; I fear, I feared; I like, I liked; I jump, I jumped; I call, I called. Nor can we use the past tense of the verb and say, "I wrote the novel," because that could mean I might have completed the novel a month ago, or years ago. Present Tense: I write Past Tense: I wrote Future Tense: I shall write Present Perfect Tense: I have written Past Perfect Tense: I had written Future Perfect Tense: I shall have written Among the six tenses of the verb "write," we use only three different forms of the verb itself; namely, the present tense "write," the past tense "wrote," and the participle, "written." We call the other forms compound forms, or verb phrases, obtained by combining the present tense or the past participle with the auxiliary verbs should and have. The English language has many verbs whose past tense or past participle do not form regular verbs, but form in other ways. I saw the boat. The present tense of a verb denotes present time. The kids have played. We like it. It is necessary to memorize them and to practice using them correctly. But if we need to express that we finished an action in the present, we cannot use the present tense and say, "I write the novel," because that means I am doing the writing now. Every action must take place in present time, in past time, or in future time. If we know these three forms—the present tense, the past tense, and the past participle—it is possible to form all the tenses. We have no rule to help you master the forms of these irregular verbs. Notice this sentence: I had written the novel before I proofed it. This statement shows that I had completed the act of writing at some definite time in the past. I see I walk I am I laugh I smile I write The past tense of a verb denotes past time. Thus, in "I have written," the word "written" is the perfect participle; in "he has started writing," the word "started" is the perfect participle; in "he has finished writing," the word "finished" is the perfect participle used with has to form the present perfect tense of the verb finish. Most verbs form their perfect participle by adding ed (or d) to the present tense, first person singular. The Perfect Tenses Notice the following sentence: I have written a novel. The verb "have written" is not in the present tense (for write is present); nor is it in the past tense (for wrote is past); it is in the present perfect tense. We always express the perfect tenses by verb phrases introduced by the auxiliary verbs have, has, had, will have, should have, etc. Both the past tense and the past participle of these verbs are alike and we form them by adding d or ed to the simple form of the verb. For example: I see the boat. Such verbs are called regular verbs because they all form their tenses alike without any difficulties. Most verbs (of the thousands of verbs in the language) form their past tense by adding ed (or d) to the present tense, first person singular. Regular and Irregular Verbs Notice the sentences below: The kids play. Examples: (present tense) I walk, (past tense) I walked, (perfect participle) I have walked; I call, I called, I have called. That is, with most verbs the perfect participle is the same in form as the past tense. In this sentence the verb phrase indicates that I will complete the act of writing at some time in the future. I have seen the boat. I do my homework. We call this tense past perfect tense. We liked it. We have liked it. Verb Tenses—Present Tense, Past Tense, Future Tense A verb has three principal tenses: the present, the past, and the future. The auxiliary verbs that I used above to form the verb phrases have written, had written, shall have written, are called the past participles. © LousyWriter.com Present Past Future I walk I walked I shall walk I write I wrote I shall write I speak I spoke I shall speak The present tense is sometimes called the simple form of the verb. They are consequently called the principal parts of the verb. Notice the sentence: By this time tomorrow I shall have written the chapter. I did my homework. I have done my homework. In other words, the perfect tenses are verb phrases composed of the past participle with an auxiliary verb. We can always tell the present perfect tense of a verb: it always consists of have (or has) together with the perfect participle of the verb. This means I wrote the novel at the time I made the statement. Such verbs are called irregular verbs. I shall see I shall walk I shall be I shall laugh I shall smile I shall write We shall talk We shall obey We shall go We shall see You will be there I will obey We will go We will see NOTE— When we use "I" or "We" as the subject of a verb in the future tense, we use the word "shall" to form the future. When in doubt, refer to the dictionary or see our List of Irregular Verbs. The part of the verb that we use with have (and has) to form the present perfect tense is called the perfect participle.

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