



The Present Tense

in Standard American English

Review, in all aspects

The Present: 4 aspects



Simple Present



Present Progressive (Continuous)



Present Perfect



Present Perfect Progressive

We will cover these skills

- How to make the form
- What each aspect means
- How to use the aspects

Presentation Outline

Present Forms

- Normal (Active Voice) -

- Simple Present :
 - Base form or –s
 - I walk, you walk, she walks
- Present Progressive (Continuous) :
 - Am/are/is + -ing
 - I am walking, you are walking, he is walking
- Present Perfect :
 - Have/has + past participle
 - I have eaten, you have eaten, she **has** eaten
- Present Perfect Progressive :
 - Have/has + been + -ing
 - I have been eating, you have been eating, he **has** been eating

– Passive Voice –

Apply Aspect to **Be**, Add Past Participle

- Simple Present :
 - Am/are/is + past participle
 - I am interrupted, she is interrupted
- Present Progressive (Continuous) :
 - Am/are/is + being
 - I am being interrupted, he is being interrupted
- Present Perfect :
 - Have/has + been + past participle
 - I have been interrupted, she **has** been interrupted
- Present Perfect Progressive (rare) :
 - Have/has + been + being + past participle
 - I have been being interrupted, he **has** been being interrupted

Modal Verbs: Forms

- Modal verbs do not change form, unlike regular verbs.
 - She runs, she can run
 - She goes running, she will go running
 - She ran, she could run
 - She had run, she could have run
- Modal verbs are always the first verb in a series of verbs. The next verb uses the base form.
 - She could have been injured!
 - You must be feeling so tired...

Questions - ??

- Simple (except **Be**): → Use **Do**
 - I watch TV. → Do you watch TV?
 - She studies Korean. → Does she study Korean?
 - I have three cats. → Do you have any cats?
- Main Verb is **Be** (Simple, Progressive, Passive) → Start with **Be**
 - I am happy. → Are you happy?
 - I am studying math. → Are you studying math?
 - I am loved by all. → Are you loved by all?
- Main Verb is **Have** (Perfect, Perfect Progressive) → Start with **Have**
 - I have read this book. → Have you read this book?
 - I have been sleeping. → Have you been sleeping?
- Main Verb is Modal Verb → Start with Modal verb
 - I can read. → Can you read?
 - I should visit my mother. → Should you visit your mother?

Negation -

- Simple (except **Be**): → Use **Do**
 - I watch TV. → I do not watch TV.
 - She studies Korean. → She doesn't study Korean.
 - I have three cats. → I don't have any cats.
- Main Verb is **Be** (Simple, Progressive, Passive) → Place after **Be**
 - They are happy. → They are not happy.
 - I am studying math. → I am not studying math.
 - She is loved by all. → She is not loved by all.
- Main Verb is **Have** (Perfect, Perfect Progressive) → Place after **Have**
 - I have read this book. → I have not read this book.
 - She has been sleeping. → She has not been sleeping.
- Main Verb is Modal → Place after Modal verb
 - I can sleep. → I can't sleep.
 - You should go outside. → You should not go outside.

Questions and Negation: Long Verb Forms

- Sometimes English sentences use several verbs in a row.
 - Example 1: I *am visiting* my sister tomorrow.
 - Example 2: She *has been waiting* for us for days!
- When this long verb form happens in questions or negation, only the **first verb** changes position to make the question or negation.
 - Example 1 (Q): **Am I** *visiting* my sister tomorrow?
 - Example 1 (N): I **am not** *visiting* my sister tomorrow.
 - Example 2 (Q): **Has she** *been waiting* for us for days?
 - Example 2 (N): She **has not** *been waiting* for us for days.

Irregular Forms - Simple

1. Add -s for most verbs	work- works
2. Add -es for words that end in -ch, -s, -sh, -x or -z.	watch- watches, pass- passes, relax- relaxes, rush- rushes
3. If the verb ends in consonant + y, change the -y to -i and add -es.	study- studies
If the verb ends in vowel + y, DON'T CHANGE THE -Y.	play- plays
4. Irregular forms	do- does, go- goes, be- am, is, are, have- has

Spelling Changes verb-ing

Verbs ending with one 'e'
('e' sound is silent)

believe
have
live
take
move



Drop -e
add 'ing'

believ**ing**
hav**ing**
liv**ing**
tak**ing**
mov**ing**

Short one-syllable verbs ending with CVC

sit
get
plan
run
stop



Double final consonant and add -ing

sit**ting**
get**ting**
plan**ning**
run**ning**
stop**ping**

Two or more syllable verbs with CVC

begin
forget
regret
admit
upset



Double final consonant if last syllable is stressed

begin**ning**
forget**ting**
regret**ting**
admit**ting**
upset**ting**

Verbs ending in -ie

die
lie
tie



Change -ie to -y
Add -ing

dy**ing**
ly**ing**
ty**ing**

Irregular Forms - Progressive

Irregular Forms – Past Participle

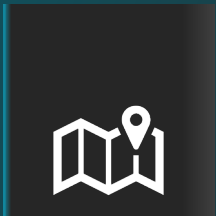
Note: Not a complete list!
If you want to review this topic, please let me know.

-EN Family	-N Family	-NE Family	-U Family	Same as Base Form
Pattern: double consonant, -en	Pattern: Change vowel, add -n	Pattern: Add -ne	Begin - Begun	Come - come
Ride - Ridden	Wear - Worn	Do - Done	Drink - Drunk	Run - run
Write - Written	Swear - Sworn	Go - Gone	Swim - Swum	Cut - cut
Pattern: Change vowel, -en	Tear - Torn	Pattern: Change vowel, add -ne	Sing - Sung	Cost - cost
Steal - Stolen	Fly - Flown	Bear - Borne	Ring - Rung	Hit - hit
Freeze - Frozen	Pattern: Add -n		Sink - Sunk	Let - let
Wake - Woken	Know - Known	-N Family (cont.)	Stink - Stunk	Quit - quit
Pattern: Add -en	Grow - Grown	Pattern: add -n		Shut - shut
Eat - Eaten	Throw - Thrown	Give - Given		Split - split
Beat - Beaten	Blow - Blown	See - Seen		Spread - spread

How is all of this present tense???

- In every verb form, there is one verb that “takes tense.” This verb is either past, present, or future.
 - Example:
 - I **was** studying (past)
 - I **am** studying (present)
 - I **will be** studying (future)
 - All modal verbs already have a tense.
- In academic writing, teachers often ask students to follow “tense consistency.”
 - If the first verb in the progressive or perfect aspect is in present tense, then the verb form is allowed in present-tense paragraphs.
 - These forms give writers more flexibility.

Present Meaning

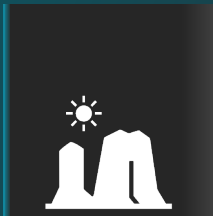


Simple.

Statements of fact or opinion (e.g., *Meat is expensive*)

General knowledge (e.g., *The sun rises and sets every day*)

Habitual actions (e.g., *I go to work on weekdays*)



Progressive.

Actions in progress (e.g., *I am washing the dishes*)

Current projects (e.g., *I am studying Sociology this semester*)

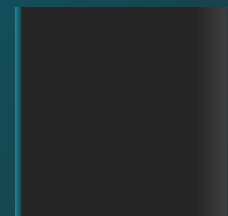
Near future (e.g., *I am meeting a friend later*)



Perfect.

Status that started in the past and continues (e.g., *I have lived in Japan since March*)

Action in the past, focus on current completion (e.g., *I have seen all of the Disney movies*)



Perfect Progressive.

Action in progress that started in the past. Has a specific start (e.g., *I have been writing since 9:00*) or duration (e.g., *I have been studying for five hours!*)

Modals – Present Meaning (1)

- Can – present “be able to,” “be allowed to”
 - She can swim. (= **is able to**)
 - Can she go to the birthday party? Yes, she can.
- May – present “be allowed to,” present possibility
 - May I go to the birthday party? Yes, you may. (= **can**)
 - She may be lost; she is not usually late. (= **Maybe** she is...)
- Could, Might – present possibility or guess (more doubt than **may**)
 - He could be at the park already.
 - He might be worried about her.

Modals – Present Meaning (2)

- **Might, Could – present polite request (see **can, may**)**
 - Might/Could I have some tea?
 - Could you help me with this project?
 - I could use some help if anyone is available.
- **Would, Could – present hypothetical or unreal**
 - His English is so good, he could pass that test right now!
 - I wouldn't climb that tree; it is small.

Modals – Present Meaning (3)

- Should, Ought to – present advice or guideline
 - You should finish your homework early.
 - People ought to exercise every day.
- Must – present requirement or assumption
 - You must pay for your bus ticket.
 - You must be so tired after your trip!

Present Meaning - Passive

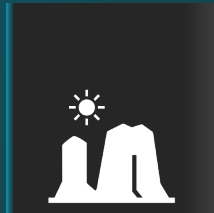


Simple.

Action by someone else, focus on effects (e.g., *I am annoyed by you.*)

Action by unknown agent, description (e.g., *The candles are lit.*)

Event, agent unnecessary (e.g., *300 babies are born each day.*)



Progressive.

Actions in progress (e.g., *Your room is being prepared for you.*)

Current projects (e.g., *Some classes are being transferred online.*)

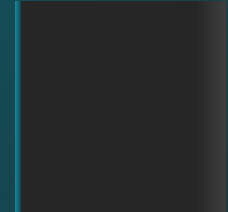
Near future (e.g., *The garbage is being collected later*)



Perfect.

Status that started in the past and continues (e.g., *That art has been owned by the museum since March.*)

Action in the past, focus on current completion (e.g., *All of the money has been spent.*)



Perfect Progressive.

RARE. Situation in progress that started in the past. Has a specific start (e.g., *I have been being bullied since 9th grade*) or duration (e.g., *I have been being lied to for years!*) **Note: Usually, the perfect is better.**



Present Use

- Thanks to the four aspects and **active** versus **passive** voice, there are many verb forms that include the present tense.
- Some of these verb forms allow us to include information about the past and the future.
- When writing paragraphs, it is logical to move forward in time. For example:
 - I have always wanted to visit California because I like beaches and lots of people. I have a list of all the tourist attractions that I want to visit, and I talk to my friends about it and add items to the list whenever I think of new ideas. Now my friend Rie wants to go to CA, too! I am visiting CA with her next month.

Change the order of the sentences to make the paragraph logical.

1. Sara plans to study in Paris next year. Sara speaks French, and she loves to cook. Sara has always dreamed of visiting Paris.
2. Now Hyogo's parents are talking about getting a dog. Hyogo has never liked dogs. She promises to take care of it, and she does her chores to prove that she's responsible. But Hyogo's little sister is obsessed with puppies and really wants a dog.

Present Use:

Practice!

Present Tense Summary

Here is what we learned

- **Form:**

There are four aspects and two “voices” (passive and active) in present tense.

There are some irregular forms of the simple present, the progressive –ing, and the past participle.

Many modal verbs are useful in the present tense.

- **Meaning:**

It is possible to communicate many ideas with the present tense. Each aspect has a different meaning, and some can express different times.

The passive voice focuses on the affected person. It is useful when “Who is doing the action?” is not important information.

- **Use:**

It is possible to communicate information about the past, present, and future, using only the aspects of the present tense.

Paragraphs are usually most logical when the ideas are presented in the order that they happen.