

Review of tenses

Activity 1

Table of tenses

Tense	Example	Signal words
Present Simple		
Present Continuous		
Past Simple		
Past Continuous		
Future Simple		
Future Continuous		
Present Perfect		
Present Perfect Continuous		
Past Perfect		
Past Perfect Continuous		
Future Perfect		
Future Perfect Continuous		

a) Put the examples into the chart

I study, I had been studying, I will have studied, I am studying, I was study-
 ing, I had studied, I have studied, I will have been studying, I studied, I
 will study, I have been studying, I will be studying.

b) Put the signal words into the chart

once, how long, yesterday, tomorrow, next, for, the last couple of hours, all day
 long, already, by Monday, until that day, in 1990, for 4 years, not yet, since 1993,
 never, so far, the other day, Look!, the whole week, 2 minutes ago, next week, ever,
 seldom, just, never, while, every ..., all day, in a week, just, as long as, al-
 ready, just, just now, Listen!, now, right now, often, for, never, normally,
 last Friday, sometimes, usually, all day, not yet, the whole day, since, at the
 moment, tomorrow, always

Activity 2

What is the difference?

Discuss with your partner

1. a) I work for a multinational company
b) I'm working for a multinational company
2. a) What were you doing when I called?
b) What did you do when I called?
3. a) When we arrived, he gave a speech.
b) When we arrived, he was giving a speech.
c) When we arrived, he had given a speech.
4. a) I've traveled to many countries.
b) I traveled to many countries.
5. a) I've been reading this book today.
b) I've read this book today.

Activity 3

What's my job?

Student A picks one of the following professions:

English teacher, university lecturer, student, CEO, romantic novel writer, Olympic gymnast, professional ballet dancer, Prime Minister

Student B chooses 5 questions from the list and asks them to determine the profession.

1. How much money _____ (earn) so far this year?
2. How long _____ (work) in your present job?
3. How long _____ (take) to become boss?
4. How many jobs _____ (have) before this job? / How many jobs _____ (have) in your life?
5. How many years _____ (have to) study at university to get your job?
6. How many hours _____ (usually work) a day?
7. How many hours _____ (work) so far this week? (= since Monday)
8. How many countries _____ (travel) for your work?

9. How many hours _____ (one task usually take)?
10. How many miles/ kilometres _____ (travel) so far this year?
11. How many emails _____ (write) this week?
12. How many people _____ (meet) in an average week (= a normal week)?

Activity 4

Things in common

Complete the sentences with things that are true for you and you think are also true for your partner. Then check and respond to your partner's sentences.

1. I hardly ever _____
2. I _____ almost every day
3. I am feeling _____
4. My mother is _____ing at the moment
5. I was _____ing this time last week
6. I will be _____ing this time next year
7. I have been _____ for about a year
8. I have been _____ recently
9. I have _____ twice
10. I have never _____
11. I _____ yesterday
12. I last _____ a long time ago
13. I first _____ last year
14. By the time I got home yesterday, I had _____.
15. I had just _____ when I started this course
16. I am _____ing my _____ at the weekend
17. I am going to _____ on my next holiday

Activity 5

Ask me anything

Add the missing auxiliary verbs to the questions. Interview your partner.

Student A

1. What you do?
2. What you do before that?
3. What you like to do in the future?

4. You studying anything at the moment?
5. What you study at university?
6. What your favourite subject at school?
7. You like to study anything in the future?
8. What you do in your free time?
9. What you like doing when you were a child?
10. Are there any new hobbies you like to take up?

Student B

1. you have any plans to go abroad?
2. Why you studying English?
3. you need to use English more in the future?
4. you ever taken any English language exams, e.g. IELTS?
5. you planning to take any English exams?
6. you studied English before? Where you study?
7. you speak any other languages?
8. you like to study any other languages in the future?
9. What language you want to study next?
10. you visited many foreign countries?

Activities and games adapted from <https://tefltastic.wordpress.com>