

Recognizing and using tenses:

Simple tenses

<p>Present tense – deals with something incomplete that has already begun and continues to happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I study. • You often study. • *He is studying. • We like to study. • They want to study. <p><i>*could be present or present progressive, depending on urgency</i></p>	<p>Formation of the present (regular verbs) Take off the last two letters of the infinitive (ar, er, ir) and add (for –ar / -er / -ir verbs respectively)</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: o</td> <td>Nosotros: amos / emos / imos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: as / es</td> <td>Vosotros: áis / éis / ís</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: a / e</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: an / en</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: o	Nosotros: amos / emos / imos	Tú: as / es	Vosotros: áis / éis / ís	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: a / e	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: an / en
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<p>Preterite – Used to describe a simple, completed event that has a definite beginning, end or both. This is the direct past tense that simply states “what happened.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I studied. • He went to the store. • We bought a car. • My cat died. 	<p>Formation of the preterite Take off the last 2 letters of the infinitive and add:</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: é / í</td> <td>Nosotros: amos / imos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: aste / iste</td> <td>Vosotros: asteis, isteis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: ó / ío</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: aron / ieron</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: é / í	Nosotros: amos / imos	Tú: aste / iste	Vosotros: asteis, isteis	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: ó / ío	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: aron / ieron
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<p>Imperfect – Used to describe incomplete or ongoing actions in the past tense (those that make no specific reference to their beginnings or endings). Often corresponds to the concept of “was/were –ing” or “used to” in English. Description in the past is also done with the imperfect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was studying. • I often studied. • We used to dance. • They lived in a house. (no specific time frame) • When I was young... • It was cold 	<p>Formation of the Imperfect: Take off the last 2 letters of the infinitive and add:</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: aba / ía</td> <td>Nosotros: ábamos / íamos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: abas / ías</td> <td>Vosotros: abáis / íais</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: aba / ía</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: aban / ían</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: aba / ía	Nosotros: ábamos / íamos	Tú: abas / ías	Vosotros: abáis / íais	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: aba / ía	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: aban / ían
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<p>Future – Used to express events that will occur but have not yet occurred. In English, we use the helping verb “will” to form the future tense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will study. • She will visit. • Will you come with me? 	<p>Formation of the Future: Do not remove any letters from the infinitive and add:</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: é</td> <td>Nosotros: emos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: ás</td> <td>Vosotros: éis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: á</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: án</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: é	Nosotros: emos	Tú: ás	Vosotros: éis	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: á	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: án
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<p>Conditional – Used to express hypothetical events that may or might have happened. In English, we use the helping verb “would” to form the conditional tense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would study. • She would visit. • Would you come with me? 	<p>Formation of the Conditional: Do not remove any letters from the infinitive and add:</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: ía</td> <td>Nosotros: íamos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: ías</td> <td>Vosotros: íais</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: ía</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: ían</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: ía	Nosotros: íamos	Tú: ías	Vosotros: íais	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: ía	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: ían
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<p>Subjunctive – Used in the second (dependent) clause of 2-part sentences where there is a change of subject and verb, a connecting conjunction (usually “que”) and a “subjunctive indicator” in the first clause (usually shows desire, emotion, doubt, opinion, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My mom wants me to study. • I doubt that she understands. • It’s important that you study. • We like it when you dance. 	<p>Formation of the subjunctive (regulars) Take the “o” off of the <i>present-tense yo form</i> of the verb and then <i>flip the endings</i> (use –e endings for –ar verbs and –a endings for –er/-ir verbs). –ar, –er/-ir verb endings below:</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yo: e / a</td> <td>Nosotros: emos / amos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: es / as</td> <td>Vosotros: éis / áis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: e / a</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: en / an</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yo: e / a	Nosotros: emos / amos	Tú: es / as	Vosotros: éis / áis	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: e / a	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: en / an
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<p>Past Subjunctive - When the verb in the main clause is past (preterit, imperfect, conditional, or a past perfect) and the subjunctive is needed in the second clause, use the past subjunctive (this also applies in “si” clauses).</p>	<p>Formation of the imperfect subjunctive Take the 3rd-person (ellos) form of the verb in the preterit, remove “-ron” and add the –ra endings:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="844 199 1518 331"> <tr> <td>Yo: -ra</td> <td>Nosotros: -ramos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tú: -ras</td> <td>Vosotros: -reis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Él, ella, usted or 3rd person: -ra</td> <td>Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: -ran</td> </tr> </table>	Yo: -ra	Nosotros: -ramos	Tú: -ras	Vosotros: -reis	Él, ella, usted or 3 rd person: -ra	Ellos, ellas, ustedes, group of people: -ran
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<p>Commands – Used for giving instructions. Commands can be formal (Usted / ustedes) or informal (tú / vosotros). Commands are the subjunctive without the first clause.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing! • Don’t eat that! • Listen to me! • Let’s go! 	<p>Formation of commands Commands are formed in the same way as the subjunctive. The only exception is positive tú commands, which simply use the él/ella form of the present tense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canta / no cantes / cante / cantemos / canten • Escribe / no escribas / escriba / escribamos / escriban <p>When using object pronouns (me, te, lo, la, le, nos, los, las, les, se), attach the pronouns to positive commands (pásame la pelota) and put it before negative commands (no me pases la pelota).</p>						

Compound tenses. Compound tenses require a *helping verb* (usually *estar*, *haber* or *ir*) to form a more complicated relationship. Only the helping verb needs to be fully conjugated. The word following the helping verb only has one form.

<p>Present progressive – The action is happening at exactly this moment (and the speaker wants to focus on the fact that it is presently relative)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am studying. <p>*The progressive mood can also be used in the imperfect, future or conditional by changing the tense of “<i>estar</i>.” The present participle remains the same.</p>	<p>Formation of the present progressive Use the helping verb “<i>estar</i>” (<i>estoy, estás, está, estamos, estáis, están</i>) and then the <i>present participle</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For –ar verbs, take off the –ar and add “ando” (<i>estoy estudiando</i>) • For –er/-ir verbs, take off the ending and add “iendo” (<i>estamos comiendo</i>) <p><i>Estoy comiendo, estaba comiendo, estaré comiendo, estaría comiendo</i></p>
<p>Simple future – Used to express future events that are about or likely to happen. Translates into “Going to” in English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We’re going to study. • They are going to travel. • Are you going to work? 	<p>Formation of the simple future Use the helping verb “<i>ir</i>” (to go: <i>voy, vas, va, vamos, vais, van</i>) followed by the preposition “<i>a</i>” and then the <i>infinitive</i> (unchanged form of the verb):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vamos a estudiar. • ¿Van a trabajar?
<p>Present perfect – Used to express events in the present that began in the past. The use is exactly the same as English – “I have studied”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have studied. • He has listened • Have you worked? 	<p>Formation of the present perfect Use the helping verb “<i>haber</i>” (<i>he, has, ha, hemos, habéis, han</i>) and then the <i>past participle</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For –ar verbs, take off the –ar and add “ado” (<i>he estudiado</i>) • For –er/-ir verbs, take off the ending and add “ido” (<i>hemos comido</i>)
<p>Additional perfect tenses –</p> <p>Past perfect – I had studied...yo había estudiado (<i>había, habías, había, habíamos, habíais, habían</i>) + past participle</p> <p>Pluperfect – I had studied...yo hube estudiado (<i>hube, hubiste, hubo, hubimos, hubisteis, hubieron</i>) + past participle</p> <p>Future perfect – I will have studied...yo habré estudiado (<i>habré, habrás, habrá, habremos, habréis, habrán</i>) + past participle</p> <p>Conditional perfect – I would have studied...yo habría estudiado (<i>habría, habrías, habría, habríamos, habrías, habrían</i>) + pp</p> <p>Subjunctive perfect – I hope you <i>have studied</i>...Espero que <i>hayas estudiado</i> (<i>haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, hayan</i>) + pp</p> <p>Past perfect subjunctive – She hoped that I had studied...Esperaba que yo hubiera estudiado (<i>hubiera, hubieras, hubiera, hubiéramos, hubierais, hubieran</i>) + past participle#</p>	