

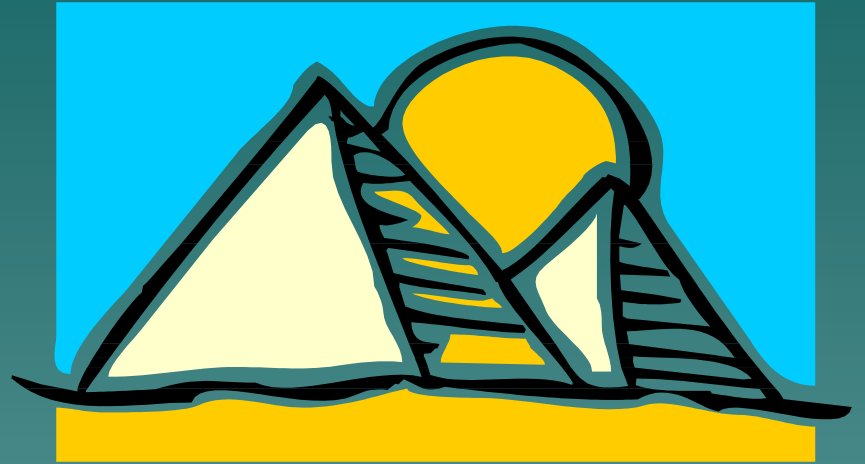
# Past and Future Verb Tenses

A Quick Grammar Guide  
By  
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A stylized, dark teal silhouette of a mountain range is positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the author's name.

# Past Tense

- ◆ Expresses an idea about something that **happened before**.
- ◆ Sentences often contain a word to show that the **time is in the past**.



- The sky **looked** cloudy **yesterday**.
- The students **seemed** busy **last week**.
- Mr. O'Neill **was** in Ottawa **then**.

# Past Tense

## ◆ *To be*

<i>Person</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	I <b>was</b>	We <b>were</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	You <b>were</b>	You <b>were</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	He, she, it <b>was</b>	They <b>were</b>

# Past Progressive

➤ Past tense of *to be* with the *ing* (present participle) verb form

- ◆ I *was hoping*
- ◆ You *were saying*
- ◆ We *were thinking*
- ◆ They *were singing*

Past Progressive: Action that was happening over a period of time; Shows that something took place at some time in the past when something else occurred.



- ◆ Someone *was standing* outside the classroom.
- ◆ I *was talking* on the phone *when* the alarm rang.

# Past Progressive

- ◆ Asks a question about **something** that happened in the past.
- ◆ Expresses a **negative idea**.

*Were* we *paying* too much?

*Was* the class *waiting*?

I *was not writing* that test.

He *was not helping* us.

# Emphatic Past

- ◆ Formed by using *did* with the verb

I *did wait*  
She *did arrive*  
We *did agree*  
It *did sink*

# Emphatic Past

- ◆ Stresses an idea that **happened in the past**
- ◆ Suggests that something is **no longer true**

We *did sell* accessories for that product **at one time.**

We *did have a* **problem**, but we found a solution.



# Emphatic Past

- ◆ The helping verb *did* asks a question about something that occurred in the past.
- ◆ The helping verb *did* expresses a negative idea about something in the past.

*Did you like the performance?*

*Did the visitors leave a good impression?*

I *did not live* in Canada in 1985.

The Office Warehouse *did not have* gas lift chairs.

# Past Tense

- ◆ The idiomatic expression *used to* indicates an action that **occurred regularly in the past**.

I *used to* live in Halifax.

Todd *used to* drive a red truck.

Timeless Tip: *Used to* is always written as two words. NEVER write *use to* or *useto*.

# Future Tense

They *will meet us tomorrow.*

Mrs. Harper *will be with you soon.*

- ◆ Expresses an idea about *something that will happen.*
- ◆ Sometimes uses words that show the time, like *tomorrow* or *later.*

# Future Tense

Create the *future tense* with **shall** or **will**.

<i>Person</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	I <b>shall (will)</b> walk	We <b>shall (will)</b> walk
2 <sup>nd</sup>	You <b>will</b> walk	You <b>will</b> walk
3 <sup>rd</sup>	He, she, it <b>will</b> walk	They <b>will</b> walk

# Future Tense

Timeless Tip:

Use *shall* in **legal documents**.

*Shall* used with the second and third person conveys the idea of **required action**.

The landlord ***shall supply*** heating oil from October 15 to May 1.

The seller ***shall deliver*** the merchandise within two weeks.

**Future Progressive:** Shows action that will go on for some time in the future

- ◆ He *will be waiting* at the airport when the plane lands.
- ◆ Next week they *will be sending* you bulletins about tax decisions.

Future Tense: Use the idiom *going to*, to express the future tense.

- ◆ Faxworx is *going to* open a branch in Stratford.
- ◆ As soon as the week is over, I am *going to* leave for Ottawa.

Timeless Tip: Do not use *gonna* instead of *going to*.

# END

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