

VERBAL TENSES

PAST SIMPLE

Regular verbs + -ed
looked (look)

Irregular verbs 2^o form
eat – ate - eaten

- 1) Things finished in the past: *He made a cake last night.*
- 2) To say one thing happened after another: *He got out of the bath and answered the phone.*
- 3) For historical events: *Shakespeare wrote Hamlet.*

PRESENT SIMPLE

I / We / You / They look

He / She / It looks

- 1) To talk about things in general: *The earth goes round the sun.*
- 2) To say how often we do things: *He usually plays tennis twice a week.*
- 3) To make a suggestion: *Why don't you go to bed early?*
- 4) Timetables: *The film starts at half past nine.*

FUTURE SIMPLE

Subject + Will + infinitive
I will look

- 1) To decide to do something at the time of speaking: -
A: I can't understand it. -B: I will explain it to you.
- 2) For predictions: *Do you think Tom will get the job?*
- 3) To promise to do something: *I will pay you back*
- 4) To ask someone to do something: *Will you shut the door, please?*

PAST CONTINUOUS

Subject + Verb to be in the past + gerund
I / He / She / It was We / You / They were looking

- 1) To say someone was doing something at a certain time: *This time last year I was living in Brazil.*
- 2) To say something happened in the middle of something else: *It was raining when I got up.*

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Subject + verb to be + gerund (-ing)
I am looking He / She / It is looking We / You / They are looking

- 1) To talk about things happening about the time of speaking: *She is having a bath now.*
- 2) To talk about a period around the present: *You are working hard today.*
- 3) For personal arrangements and appointments: *I am seeing the doctor tomorrow morning.*

FUTURE CONTINUOUS

Subject + Will be + gerund (-ing)
I will be looking

- 1) To say that we will be in the middle of doing something at a certain time in the future: *From six to seven I will be watching the match.*
- 2) To talk about things that are already planned or decided: *I will be going to the city centre later.*

PAST PERFECT

Subject + Had + Past participle
I had looked

- 1) To say that something had already happened before something which happened in the past: *When I arrived at the party, Tom had already gone home.*

PRESENT PERFECT

Subject + Have / Has + Past participle
I / We / You / They have looked He / She / It has looked

- 1) To say that you have / haven't done something during a period of time which continues up to the present: *She hasn't written to me for a month.*
- 2) After a superlative: *This is the most boring film I have ever seen.*

FUTURE PERFECT

Subject + Will have + past participle
Will have looked

- 1) To say that something will already have happened before a certain time in the future: *By the end of the month they will have been married for 25 years.*

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Subject + Had been + gerund (-ing)
I had been looking

- 1) To say how long something had been happening before something else happened: *Ken had been smoking for 30 years when he finally gave it up.*

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Subject + Have / Has been + gerund (-ing)
I / We / You / They have been looking He / She / It has been looking

- 1) To talk about an action which began in the past and has recently stopped or just stopped: *You are out of breath, have you been running?*
- 2) To say how long something has been happening: *Jim has been playing tennis since two o'clock.*

GOING TO

Subject + Be going to + infinitive
I am going to look He/She/It is going to look We/You/They are going to look

- 1) When we have already decided to do something: *I'm going to repair my bike tomorrow.* (intention)
- 2) For plans: *She is going to go shopping on Saturday.*
- 3) Evidence that something is going to happen: *Look at all those black clouds! It is going to rain.*