

VERBS

Every verb has five principal parts: infinitive, present, past, present participle, past participle.

Infinitive = to + verb stem Ex: *to go*

Present = singular and plural forms of the verb stem Ex: *goes/go*

Past = past form of the verb stem Ex: *went*

present participle = ing form of the verb Ex: *going*

past participle = usually the same form as the past; used with have (irregular verbs have a different form for the past participle. Ex: *(have) gone*

Verb Tenses

Every verb has six tenses, and each tense has a simple form and a progressive form.

Present--action occurs in the present

Form by using the present part of the verb Ex: *go/goes*

Present progressive--action is occurring in the present

Form by using is, am, or are plus the present participle Ex: *is/am/are going*

Past--action occurred in the past

Form by using the past part of the verb Ex: *went*

Past progressive--an action was occurring in the past

Form by using was or were plus the present participle Ex: *was/were going*

Future--action that will occur in the future

Form by using will or shall with the infinitive stem Ex: *will/shall go*

Future progressive--an action will be occurring in the future

Form by using will or shall plus be plus the present participle Ex: *will/shall be going*

Present perfect--an action was begun in the past and still occurs

Form by using has or have plus the past participle Ex: *has/have gone*

Present perfect progressive--an action was begun in the past and is still occurring in the present

Form by using has or have plus been plus the present participle Ex: *has/have been going*

Past perfect--an action that was begun and completed in the past.

Form by using had plus the past participle Ex: *had gone*

Past perfect progressive--an action was begun in the past and was being completed in the past

Form by using had plus been plus the present participle Ex: *had been going*

