Verb Tenses Poster

past

present

future

simple

Describes an action which is now complete.

I played tennis.

Describes a repeated action.

I play tennis.

Describes an action which is planned to take place in the future.

I will play tennis.

continuous

Describes an action which happened in the past over a length of time.

I was playing tennis.

Describes an action that is happening now.

I am playing tennis. Describes an action that will be happening for a length of time.

I will be playing tennis.

perfect

Describes an action that had happened before another action took place.

I had played tennis.

Describes an action that has happened.

I have played tennis.

Describes an action which will be finished before another action takes place.

I will have played tennis.

perfect continuous Describes an
action that
had been
happening before
another action.

I had been playing tennis.

Describes an action that has started in the past and is continuing.

I have been playing tennis.

Describes an action which happens over time before another future action takes place.

I will have been playing tennis.



Verb Tenses Poster with Substitution Tables

past

present

future

Describes an action which is now complete.

I You We They He She	played	tennis.
It		

Describes a repeated action.

I You We They	play	tennis.
He She It	plays	tennis.

Describes an action which is planned to take place in the future.

I You We They He She It	will play	tennis.
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Describes an action which happened

in the past over a length of time.

I He She It	was playing	tennis.
You We They	were playing	tennis.

Describes an action that is happening now.

I	am playing	tennis.
You We They	are playing	tennis.
He She It	is playing	tennis.

Describes an action that will be happening for a length of time.

I You We They He She	will be playing	tennis.
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continuous

simple

Verb Tenses Poster with Substitution Tables

past

present

future

Describes an action that had happened before another action took place.

took place.		
I You We They He She It	had played	tennis.

Describes an action that has happened.

I You We They	have played	tennis.
He She It	has played	tennis.

Describes an action which will be finished before another action takes place.

I You We They He She It	will have played	tennis.
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Describes an action that had been happening before another action.

I You We They He She It	had been playing	tennis.
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Describes an action that has started in the past and is continuing.

I You We They	have been playing	tennis.
He She It	has been playing	tennis.

Describes an action which happens over time before another future action takes place.

I		
You		
We		
They	will have	tennis.
He	been playing	
She		
It		



perfect

perfect continuous