



The Writing Center



Verb Tenses

	Simple Used to express facts, things that are generally true, or are habits	Perfect Gives the idea that one thing happens before another (exact time is not important)	Progressive Shows a period when an action was ongoing (like a movie or video). Also, this tense is used in conjunction with another action (begins before it and continues after it).	Perfect Progressive Gives the idea that one thing or event is in progress immediately before another. This tense is usually used to indicate the duration of the first event).
Present	I work . She works . They work .	I have worked . He has worked . They have worked .	I am working . She is working . They are working .	I have been working . He has been working . They have been working .
Past Something that happened at one particular point in the past (like a photo)	I worked . She worked . They worked .	I had worked . He had worked . They had worked .	I was working . She was working . They were working .	I had been working . He had been working . They had been working .
Future Can use "will" or "be + going to" as an auxiliary	I will work . She will work . They are going to work .	I will have worked . He will have worked . They will have worked .	I will be working . She will be working . They will be working .	I will have been working . He will have been working . They will have been working .