

Contrary to what some may think, the basic rules of language are not college-level knowledge. I learned everything I know about those rules in a 7th-grade public school classroom.



The Active Voice Verb TENSES

— Simple Present Tense —

Present Action/Condition	General Truths	Non-Action /Habitual Action	Future Time
I hear you. Here comes the bus.	There are thirty days in September.	I like music. I exercise every other day.	The train leaves at 4:00 P.M.

— Present Progressive Tense —

Activity in Progress	Verbs of Perception
I am playing soccer.	He is feeling bad.

— Simple Past Tense —

Completed Action	Completed Condition
We visited the museum yesterday.	The weather was rainy last week.

— Past Progressive Tense —

Past action that took place over a period of time.	Past action interrupted by another.
They were climbing for twenty-seven days.	We were eating dinner when she told me.

— Future Tense —

Something that will or won't happen or exist in the future.	Something in the future that relates to the present.
I will get up late tomorrow. I won't get up early tomorrow.	I am going to get something to eat.

— Present Perfect Tense —

With conditions that began in the past and led up to and includes the present.	To express habitual or continued action.	With "never," "ever" or "before" re: indefinite or unspecified past events.
He has lived here for many years.	He has worn glasses for all his life.	Have you ever been to Tokyo?

— Present Perfect Progressive Tense —

To express something that began in the past, has continued into the present and may continue into the future.
David has been working for two hours and he isn't finished yet.

— Past Perfect Tense —

To describe a past event or condition completed before another event in the past.	...in reported speech.
When I got home he had already called .	Jane said that she had gone to the movies.

— Future Perfect Tense —

To express an action or condition that will be complete upon a specified future point in time.
♦By next month we will have finished this job. ♦He won't have finished his work until 2:00. ♦We will be saved upon the revelation of Christ.

The Passive Voice Verb TENSES

— Simple Present Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
The company ships computers to many foreign countries.	Computers are shipped to many foreign countries.

— Present Progressive Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
The chef is preparing the food.	The food is being prepared by the chef.

— Simple Past Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
The delivery man delivered the package yesterday.	The package was delivered yesterday.

— Past Progressive Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
The producer was making an announcement.	An announcement was being made by the producer.

— Future Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Our representative will pick up the computer.	The computer will be picked up by our representative.

— Present Perfect Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Someone has made the arrangements for us.	The arrangements have been made for us by someone.

— Past Perfect Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
They had given us visas for three months.	We were given visas for three months.

— Future Perfect Tense —

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
By next month, we will have finished this job.	By next month, this job will have been finished .

— Examples —

PROCLAMATION	TENSE / VOICE
I gave my heart to Christ when I was fourteen years old.	Past Tense / Active Voice
I am a Christian.	Present Tense / Active Voice
“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” —John 3:16	Present Progressive Tense / Active Voice