Verb Tenses in English

(the continuous tense is also known as the progressive)

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| Past simpleI went out last night.I didn’t go out on Thursday.     | Present simpleI go to the gym on Friday.I don’t go there if I have work to do. Repeated events, things which are always true, instructions, with *be have, seem, think, understand* etc | Future simpleI will go home soon.I’m going home at 3I’m going to go home later.I go home in 2 hours. (No one simple form) |
| Past continuousI was going to work when it started to rain.Was she going over her homework with you?  Events in progress in the past | Present continuousThey are going round the museum at the moment.Is Jana going round with them? Events in progress in the present (also used for future plans) | Future continuousThey will be going to the station in two hour’s time.They won’t be going if the train’s late. Events which will be in progress in the future |
| Past perfectTom had gone into the lab by the time I arrived. I wish he hadn’t gone there alone. | Present perfectHe has gone to the supermarket.Which supermarket has he gone to? Events starting in the past which have important results now, news, with *for* and *since*. | Future perfectIt will have gone dark when she gets home. It won’t have gone dark until 7 pm. Events which will have finished in the future |
| Past perfect continuousShe had been going to that doctor for years; but now he has retired.Had she been going to the surgery in Cijl?  | Present perfect continuousHe has been going for treatment since August.Has his girlfriend been going with him?  | Future perfect continuousOn Thursday we will have been going out together for 1 year.How long will you two have been going out? |

Note the verb forms: to go, went, gone + going

Identify the tenses in these sentences:

1. I sometimes fly Virgin, but I prefer BA. Present simple

2. I didn’t fly anywhere at all last year. ………………………….

3. I’ll be flying out to New York next month. ……………………………...

4. I’ve been flying first class for many years. …………………………….

5. I have never flown to Brno before. ………………………………..

6. I wish I had flown out on an earlier flight! ……………………………….

7. I expect I’ll fly out next Tuesday. ……………………………………...

8. I’d been flying for 2 hours before I realised I’d forgotten my ipad. …………………….

9. By the time we stop at Sydney, I’ll have been flying for 3000 km. ………………………………………..

10. I was flying to Berlin when I heard the awful news. …………………………………….

11. I’m certainly not flying with Ryanair next time! …………………………………..

12. After my next journey, I’ll have flown 1,000,000 miles………………………………..

1. What will they be doing this time tomorrow?..............................................................

2. Can they describe a new friend they’ve made in Brno?...........................................................

3. If they hadn’t studied biology, what subject would they have done?………………………………………………………….

4. What was something they regret doing this year?...............................................................

5. What were they doing when they heard the story about the Thai boys in the cave?..........................................

6. What did they think about Masaryk University before they came here?.................................................

7. What’s something they hope they’ll do before they leave?................................................

8. When they leave, how long will they have spent here?..........................................................

9. Do they regret not going to university in Prague?............................................................

10. Where are they going this weekend?...........................................................

11. What do they wish they’d done before they started their course?

1. “What will you be doing this time tomorrow?”

“I think I’ll be attending a session on molecular biology”

“He told me/ he said that he thought he would be attending a session on molecular biology”