



Present, Past, and Future Tenses

Tense means time.

The tense of a verb tells when an action takes place.

The bear **walks** to the honey tree.



The bear **walked** to the honey tree.

The bear **will walk** to the honey tree.

Present Tense (Time)

The present tense of a verb names an action that happens regularly. It can also express a general truth.

The present tense of the verb is the **base form** of the verb.

When the subject is a **singular noun or he, she, or it**, you usually add **s** to the verb.

Present tense

Singular

I visit.

You visit.

He, she, or it visits.

Plural

We visit.

You visit.

They visit.

The verb *be*

The present tense of the verb *be* differs from the base form:

am, are, is

I am. You are. She is.

Past tense (time)

The past tense of a verb names an action that already happened.

Form past tense of most verbs by adding *ed* to the base form of the verb.

Future tense (time)

The future tense of a verb names an action that will take place in the future.

Form the future tense by adding the helping verb will or shall to the base form of the verb.



The balloon
floats in the
breeze.

The balloon **floated**
in the breeze.

The balloon will **float** in the
breeze.