

## TENSES IN ENGLISH - QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

### SIMPLE TENSES

#### PRESENT SIMPLE

TO BE: I am / I am not / Am I? > Yo soy, yo estoy ...

You / we / they are

He /she / it is

Affirmative, contracted form: I´m / you´re / he´s ...

Negative, contracted form: I´m not / isn´t / aren´t

TO HAVE: I have (got) / I have not (got) / Have I (got)? > Yo tengo, yo he ...

He / she / it has (got)

Affirmative, contracted form: I´ve, he´s ...

Negative, contracted form: haven´t / hasn´t

REST OF THE VERBS\*: I talk / I do not talk / Do I talk? > Yo hablo

He / she / it talks

He / she / it does not talk

Does he / she / it talk?

Negative, contracted form: don´t / doesn´t

#### PAST SIMPLE

TO BE: I was / I was not / Was I? > Yo era, yo estaba

You / we / they were

He / she / it was

TO HAVE: I had / I had not (got) / Had I (got)? > Yo tenía, yo había

Negative, contracted form: hadn´t

REST OF THE VERBS\*: I talked / I did not talk / Did I talk? > Yo hablé

Affirmative: if a regular verb, add *ed* to its infinitive; if an irregular verb, use its past (see the irregular verbs list).

Negative, contracted form: didn´t

#### FUTURE SIMPLE

ALL VERBS\*: I will talk / I will not talk / Will I talk? > Yo hablaré

Affirmative, contracted form: I´ll talk / you´ll talk ...

Negative, contracted form: won´t

#### CONDITIONAL SIMPLE

ALL VERBS\*: I would talk / I would not talk / Would I talk? > Yo hablaría

Affirmative, contracted form: I´d talk / you´d talk ...

Negative, contracted form: wouldn´t

## PERFECT TENSES

verb *to have* + participle of the main verb

Participle: if a regular verb, add *ed* to its infinitive; if an irregular verb, use its participle (see the irregular verbs list)

### PRESENT PERFECT

ALL VERBS\*: I have talked / I have not talked / Have I talked? > Yo he hablado

### PAST PERFECT

ALL VERBS\*: I had talked / I had not talked / Had I talked? > Yo había hablado

### FUTURE PERFECT

ALL VERBS\*: I will have talked / I will not have talked / Will I have talked? > Yo habré hablado

### CONDITIONAL PERFECT

ALL VERBS\*: I would have talked / I would not have talked / Would I have talked? > Yo habría hablado

## CONTINUOUS TENSES

verb *to be* + gerund of the main verb

Gerund: add *ing* to the infinitive of the verb

### PRESENT CONTINUOUS

ALL VERBS\*: I am talking / I am not talking / Am I talking? > Yo estoy hablando

### PAST CONTINUOUS

ALL VERBS\*: I was talking / I was not talking / Was I talking? > Yo estaba hablando

### FUTURE CONTINUOUS

ALL VERBS\*: I will be talking / I will not be talking / Will I be talking? > Yo estaré hablando

### CONDITIONAL CONTINUOUS

ALL VERBS\*: I would be talking / I would not be talking / Would I be talking? > Yo estaría hablando

\* We use the verb *to talk* as an example for this Quick Reference Guide. Modal verbs (can, may ...) have their own rules and exceptions.