Present / past / future tenses; uses & forms

I) The present simple :

Forms :	Uses :	Key words :
Affirmative : S + V **He / She / It** + V + S Negative : S + { **Don't** / **Doesn't** } + V Intrrogative : { **Do** / **Does** } + S + V	Habitual actions General statements	Always Usually Often Sometimes Never Every day Once/ twice a week

NB :verbs ending with **o , x , s ,ch ,sh** + **es** He / she / it : go ⟶ goes
Consonant +**y** **ie**s He /she / it : study ⟶ studies

II).The present continuous :

Forms :	Uses :	Key words :
Affirmative S + { **am** / **is** / **are** } + v + ing Negative :S + { **am not** / **isn't** / **aren't** } + v + ing Interrogative : { **am** / **is** / **are** } + S + v + ing	*Actions happening at the moment *Temporary activities *Arrangement in the future	At the moment Now Look ! Listen ! Today Tonight This afternoon

NB : We double the consonant at the end of one syllable verbs
ending with: consonant + vowel + consonant : stop ⟶ sto**pp**ed / sto**pp**ing
If the verb is composed of more than one syllable we double the last consonant but only if the final syllable is stressed :prefer ⟶ prefe**rr**ing / prefe**rr**ed

III)The past simple :

Forms :	Use :	Key words :
Affirmative : regular :S + v + ed : irregular :go ⟶ went Negative: S + **didn't** + v (bare infinitive) Interrogative : **did** + S + v (bare infinitive)	- Complete past events that happened at a definite time - Narrating past events - past habits	Last week Yesterday Suddenly Ago In 1990 The previous… Once upon a time

NB : *see notes above
* consonant + y ⟶ **i**ed : <u>study</u> ⟶ studied
* verbs ending with "**e**": <u>use</u> ⟶ <u>used</u>
*** the simple past can have a present or future meaning when used after :**
If / as if / as though / it's high time / would rather / wish / suppose /

V) The past continuous :

Forms:	Use :	Key words :

Affirmative :S + {was / were} + v + ing	*Actions that lasted for a certain period of time in the past	While When As
Negative : :S + {wasn't / Weren't} + v + ing	*Used in descriptions of past events	
	*An action was in progress in the past when another action interrupted it	
Interrogative:{was / were} +S + v + ing	* two simultaneous actions	

NB: see notes about doubling the consonant at the end of verbs / verbs ending with "e":use ➞ using

V)The present perfect :

Forms :	Uses :	Key words
Affirmative:S+{have / has} +past participle	*describing actions that have just (recently) happened	For / Since Ever / never So far / up to now
Negative:S + {haven't / hasn't} + past participle	** actions that started in the past and continue up to the present or the result is related to the present	Already / yet Just / lately How long / recently All this year All my life
Interrogative :{have / has} + S+ past participle	***actions that happened at an indefinite time * habitual actions with never and always	

NB : past participle of regular verbs = verb + ed / for irregular verbs : see the list of irregular verbs

VI) The present perfect progressive

Form : S + have been + V + ing **has been** **S + haven't been + V + ing** **have + S + been + V + ing**	**Use : actions that began in the past and are still in progress or has only just finished**

VII)The Future :

Forms :	Uses :	Key words :
1)S + {am / is / are} + v + ing ➞ Present progressive	1*Arranged and decided actions ➞ near future	Tomorrow Next This evening Tonight After
2) S + {am / is / are} + going to + v	2***Intention:** action already decided perhaps not arranged ***Prediction** : the action is predictable and is certainly going to happen	Soon I hope ….. I expect
3)S + will + v (bare infinitive)	3*Actions decided now : not pre – meditated *Possible predictable event it's not sure If + present ➞ future	

NB You must understand the situation and the context in order to put the verbs in the right tense . The key words may help you but not always . You may find "always" for example with the present simple, the present perfect or the past simple .

The past perfect

Forms	Uses	Key words
Affirmative : S + **had** + **past participle** Negative: S + **hadn't**+ **past participle** Interrogative : **Had**+ S + **past participle** ?	- to talk about a past action that occurred before another past action. - When we report a past action - past habits	Already Before After Until By the time

The past perfect continuous

Forms	Uses	Key words

Affirmative
        :S + **had**+ **been**+ **v** + **ing**
 	
Negative :
        :S + **hadn't** +**been** + **v** + **ing**
 	
Interrogative:
        Had+ S +**been** +**v** + **ing ?**
	* It is used to say how long something had been happening before something else happened.	Before
		After
		Since …